

Israelis attacked in 'safe' areas

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — Commandos fired at Israeli soldiers in South Lebanon twice Saturday in areas where Israeli troops are usually considered "safe" from attack. The military command said an Israeli soldier was wounded when commandos opened fire at a position in the village of Tebnit, just west of the village of Marjayoun which houses the headquarters of the Israeli-allied forces of the late Major Saad Haddad. The military said the assailants also threw a grenade and the Israeli fired back. Later in the day, a military spokesman said gunmen shot light arms and a rocket-propelled grenade at an Israeli patrol in the village of Jouaiya, 15 kilometres north of the Israeli border in a sector patrolled by the United Nations peacekeepers.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
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Iraq supports OIC resolutions

BAGHDAD (A.P.) — Iraq declared support Saturday to resolutions by the fourth Islamic summit conference calling for a cease-fire to the 40-month-old Iran-Iraq war and the return of Egypt to the Islamic fold. The declaration was issued following a joint meeting of the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) and the ruling Arab Socialist Baath Party's regional command. The meeting, under President Saddam Hussein, "positively valued" the summit's resolution of the Iran-Iraq war and on Egypt's return to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), the declaration said. On Friday, one day after the OIC decision, President Hussein telephoned Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The two leaders exchanged views on the OIC decision.

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Australian minister to visit Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs Bill Hayden will pay an official visit to Jordan from Feb. 1 to Feb. 4, according to Australian embassy sources here. Mr. Hayden, who will be on a tour of the region, is expected to hold talks with Jordanian officials on issues of mutual concern.

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Arafat in Tunis

TUNIS (R) — Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), returned to Tunis from Rabat Saturday after talks Friday night with King Hassan of Morocco, the Palestinian news agency WAFA reported. It said the discussions focused on the just-concluded Islamic summit conference in Casablanca and preparations for an Arab League summit in Saudi Arabia this March.

MNF will stay, says Salem

PARIS (R) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem said Saturday that the Multi-National Force was resolved to remain in the Beirut area until all foreign forces had left his country. Mr. Salem was speaking to reporters following two hours of talks with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson, during which he said there had been complete agreement on all vital issues concerning Lebanon. Asked about the future of the four-nation MNF, he said: "There is no change in their position. It is the same."

French general arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (A.P.) — General Georges Lacaze, chief of staff of the French armed forces, arrived here Saturday on a six-day visit, the Middle East News Agency reported. French supplied Mirage 2000 fighters are scheduled to go into service with the Egyptian armed forces by the end of 1984. In addition, Egypt assembles French Gazelle helicopters, and manufactures 10 per cent of the Franco-German Alphajet.

Oslo arrests 'Soviet spy'

OSLO (R) — A Norwegian Foreign Ministry official has been arrested on charges of spying, the attorney general said Saturday in a statement. Arne Treholt, 41, was detained at Oslo's Fornebu airport Friday on his way to a meeting abroad with the Soviet state security committee, the KGB, the statement said.

Pakistan to increase Islamic courts

ISLAMABAD (R) — Every police district in Pakistan is to have an Islamic court, the country's chief Islamic judge said in an interview published Saturday. Justice Arbab Hussain, chairman of the Federal Shariat (Islamic) court, told the Islamabad daily the Muslim that the main purpose of Islamic or Qazi courts would be to decide cases as quickly as possible.

Shells hit Baabda palace as Gemayel talks of peace

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Artillery shells fired by Syrian-backed Druze gunners from Lebanon's Shouf mountains crashed into the presidential palace Saturday as President Amin Gemayel was talking to a student delegation about peace and national unity.

Official sources said three shells exploded inside the palace compound, causing considerable damage, and more than 10 landed just outside as the Lebanese army fought heavy artillery battles with Druze militiamen for a second day.

State-run Beirut Radio said two army corporals were killed in Saturday's shelling and several civilians were wounded in mainly Christian east Beirut and nearby towns. Falangist radio put the military toll at three.

Shells crashed around the residence of United States Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew 500 metres from the presidential palace in Baabda, about eight kilometres from Beirut city centre. A Druze spokesman said the army had intensified its attacks Saturday and was using tanks as well as rockets and artillery.

Official sources said Mr. Gemayel was at least 50 metres away when a shell slammed into the large, stone-built palace, blowing out windows in several reception rooms and offices.

But the president continued his audience in the first-floor conference hall of the central wing, untroubled by the thunderous impact of the shells, a spokesman said.

Mr. Gemayel was addressing a student delegation on the importance of closing ranks and making extra efforts to unify the nation, student sources said. The president told them he had great faith in the future of Lebanon despite all difficulties.

Student spokesman Jamal Fayad said: "We were talking with him about peace despite the tense atmosphere, and the meeting took place amid the sound of explosions."

Ten shells exploded near the government-run hospital at Baabda, causing damage but no injuries, a hospital spokesman said.

Druze warning

The mainly-Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) warned Friday night that its militia would shell government buildings, even at the risk of civilian casualties, if

array and Falangist gunners continued to shell Druze areas.

Saturday's attack came during a four-hour duel with artillery and multiple rocket launchers between the Lebanese army and Druze militiamen. Police said the salvo came from the Druze-controlled Alek bluff overlooking the U.S. Marine base at Beirut's international airport.

U.S. F-14 Tomcat jets scrambled off aircraft carriers in Lebanese waters to stage low reconnaissance runs over Beirut and the neighbouring hills shortly after the shelling tapered off, the state radio said.

In day-long exchanges Friday 10 people in Druze towns and villages were killed, a Druze spokesman said, and at least 35 people were wounded in Druze and east Beirut.

The PSP told Reuters by telephone Saturday that mainly Muslim west Beirut would not be shelled because no artillery emplacements there were being used to attack Druze positions.

"We are not against any party of Lebanese except those who are hostile towards us," the PSP statement said.

"West Beirut is the area which sides with us in our national battle. We are concerned about its security and safety and the safety of all those living in it."

The PSP said it was issuing the

statement to refute right-wing radio reports that it had threatened to bombard targets in the commercial centre of west Beirut.

As the shelling of east Beirut intensified Saturday, shopkeepers closed their shutters, the streets emptied of traffic, and military authorities advised people to take shelter.

Radio stations blared warnings to residents to remain indoors and motorists to stay off highways when the new round of shelling broke out at midmorning Saturday. Hundreds of families huddled in basements and bomb shelters, and streets were deserted in east Beirut and suburban Baabda, Hadath, Fayadieh and Jamhour.

It was the first time the presidential palace was hit directly since Lebanon's latest civil war last September that pitted the army and the predominantly Christian rightist militiamen of the Falange Party against Druze and Shi'ite Muslim militias seeking a greater share of power for their communities.

A government statement said Saturday's attack was designed to frustrate Mr. Gemayel's efforts to enforce a Saudi-mediated security plan to disengage the warring factions and establish a durable ceasefire.

Beirut streets become dangerous for foreigners, page 3



Two soldiers of the French contingent in the Multi-National Force (MNF) in Beirut keep watch at the Lebanese capital's "green line" dividing the eastern and western sectors (A.P. wirephoto)

Junblatt says latest fighting will continue until Gemayel resigns

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Mr. Walid Junblatt, leader of Lebanon's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), Saturday called on President Amin Gemayel to resign or otherwise face the "complete destruction of Lebanon."

In an interview with the Jordan Times, the Lebanese opposition leader said: "The government of Gemayel has not honoured the resolutions of the Geneva conference on reconciliation in Lebanon. It is insisting on carrying out the Falangist policy of dominating every aspect of Lebanese life. And it is doing this with the direct help of the U.S."

"We will not stop fighting this time unless and until the Gemayel government resigns, even if that means the complete destruction of Lebanon."

Mr. Junblatt said that President Gemayel's government and Lebanon's opposition parties, of which he is leader, have reached a deadlock situation. "Gemayel failed in his mission after the Geneva conference, and renewed fighting against us instead of thinking of a serious political reconciliation," he said, adding that Mr. Gemayel was charged by the Geneva conference to abrogate the Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal agreement of May 17, 1983, but until now "there was no sign of him doing so."

"Gemayel seems unable to ever reach a comprehensive solution that will secure the full rights of all

sectors of the Lebanese community," Mr. Junblatt said. "There can be no talk of stopping the latest round of fighting, for our position now is one of all-out challenge to the Lebanese government, and until a real and acceptable political settlement to the crisis of Lebanon is found the fighting will not stop."

The PSP leader's call on President Gemayel to resign came amid reports of heavy fighting between the predominantly Druze PSP forces on the one hand, and the Lebanese army and the Falangist Party militias in the hills overlooking Beirut on the other. Previously Mr. Junblatt maintained that his aim was not to topple the Lebanese president.

Reports of the heavy fighting in Lebanon Saturday also said that the forces of Mr. Junblatt shelled President Gemayel's palace in Baabda, east of Beirut.

Mr. Junblatt accused the Lebanese army and militias of the predominantly Maronite Falangist Party of bombarding civilian villages in the Shouf mountains and of waging an "annihilation war" against its inhabitants.

"Gemayel thinks that by shelling civilian areas he would be able to frighten their inhabitants and could force them to leave. But they will never be frightened because civilians living there (the Shouf mountains) have taken the necessary precautions, including shelters and we will not surrender. For it has been our land for thousands of years," Mr. Junblatt said.

'We are able to resist'

Referring to U.S. assistance to the Lebanese army, Mr. Junblatt said: "No matter how much arms and ammunition the U.S. gives that army, we are able to resist them at all times." He contended that the Lebanese army is "merely to serve the Falangist's ambitions in the country."

"We frequently explained to the U.S. administration that this government is an oppressive one and would not ever preserve the sovereignty of the Lebanese state, but to no avail," Mr. Junblatt said.

'Falangists' killed Kerr

In reply to a question on an accusation he made in Damascus last week that the Falangists were behind the assassination of the president of the American University of Beirut (AUB), Dr. Malcolm Kerr, Mr. Junblatt said: "The Falangists want to dominate the AUB by having their own people in the university's top positions as well as by incorporating their own educational curriculum into the system."

"But since Mr. Kerr was a good friend of the Arabs and on several occasions supported the Palestinian cause, to which the Falangists are opposed, the removal of Dr. Kerr would serve a double purpose for the Falangists."

On his recent visit to Moscow, he said the trip had nothing to do with the current situation in Lebanon and that it represented a continuation of an "old friendship" between his party and the Soviet Union.

'Obeidat and Abu Jihad discuss Jordan-PLO talks

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat received in his office Saturday the deputy military commander of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), who congratulated him on his appointment.

Later, Mr. Wazir told the Jordan Times that views on resumption of PLO-Jordan talks on joint political moves in Middle East peace efforts were discussed during the meeting. He added that both sides expressed the wish to resume the dialogue with no preconditions set by either party concerning the outcome.

"The PLO-Jordan talks will focus on finding a common ground that can constitute a platform for future joint political moves," Mr.

Wazir said. "However, it was agreed that any joint platform reached would be oriented towards Arab approval, not necessarily by all Arab states, and would also have an international dimension to it," he said.

Talks between the PLO and Jordan reached a deadlock last April when they were abandoned due to failure to reach an agreement. But since then both sides have expressed readiness to resume the talks and His Majesty King Hussein has extended an official invitation to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to come to Jordan and resume the talks.

Mr. Arafat, who has announced his intention to visit Jordan to resume the talks, is expected here soon after completing a pre-scheduled tour of several West African states that will start Tuesday.

King thanks the nation

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday expressed his deep appreciation to the Jordanian people, Arabs and friends everywhere for their concern over his health during his recent illness.

"I take pride in belonging to this nation and I feel overwhelmed with your noble feelings that contributed to my speedy recovery," the King said in a message addressed to the nation.

King Hussein said that "no challenges or obstacles whatsoever" will dissuade him from "pursuing the struggle for fulfilling the nation's aspired goals."

Referring to the steadfast population on the West Bank, King Hussein said that "they will never be abandoned until they fully recover their holy places, their rights, their freedom and land."

"Abandoning our people in the occupied territory is abandoning our duty and honour and all values in life," King Hussein said.



Mubarak receives Hussein's message

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Saturday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein dealing with Arab issues and the impact of the Organisation of Islamic Conference's (OIC) decision to invite Egypt back.

The message was delivered to President Mubarak Saturday by Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, who attended the OIC summit in Casablanca, Morocco, and returned to Amman Friday.

Mr. Abu Odeh left for Cairo early Saturday and returned to Amman in the evening after delivering the message to Mr. Mubarak, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said in Amman.

The message follows consultations Friday night between

King Hussein and President Mubarak over the phone.

The King's message to the Egyptian leader came amid reports that a meeting was in the offing between Jordan, Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to consider a new approach to Middle East peace efforts.

Nabil Shath, a senior aide to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, told Reuters the meeting would look into all Middle East peace initiatives and seek a compromise plan that would give a push to settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. He did not give a date for the meeting.

He said Mr. Arafat, who unexpectedly visited Egypt last month, was keen to involve Cairo

in any future talks on the Palestinian issue.

The New York Times Saturday quoted Osama Al Baz, senior political adviser to Mr. Mubarak, as saying that the meeting will take place in March.

The United States has been invited to join in the discussions but Israel has not, according to Mr. Baz, the newspaper said.

"Since the time is not right for Israel to join us, the United States should act as a go-between," Mr. Baz said.

Mr. Baz made the statements one day after the Islamic summit invited Egypt to rejoin the group from which it was suspended following its 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel.

Egyptian leader lauds OIC decision

CAIRO (A.P.) — President Hosni Mubarak has lauded as historic the Islamic summit conference resolutions, but stopped short of endorsing the conference's decision to readmit Egypt to the 45-member Islamic Organisation.

Mr. Mubarak's first publicised comment on the outcome of the Casablanca, Morocco, summit, which ended Thursday, came in an exchange of telegrams with Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq, one of the staunchest defenders of Egypt's reinstatement in the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

The exchange during the Pakistani leader's flight over Egypt on the way home from the summit was released by the presidency.

In his telegram to Mr. Mubarak, Gen. Zia said he was "particularly happy" with the summit resolution restoring Egypt to the OIC.

"I would like to commend the historic resolutions and decisions adopted by the Islamic summit conference at Casablanca for the sake of the unity and solidarity of the Muslim World in confronting the dangers surrounding it," Mr. Mubarak said in reply.

"Camp David is dead for Egypt," page 2

Hassan outlines Jordanian role in OIC summit, page 3

Top Libyan diplomat shot in Rome

ROME (A.P.) — Libya's top-ranking diplomat in Italy, Ammar Al Taggazy, was shot and critically wounded by two unidentified gunmen who ambushed him at his garage entrance Saturday, police said.

The attack took place in broad daylight when two young men walked up to Mr. Taggazy and fired several pistol shots at him before escaping on foot, according to Italian news reports.

Mr. Taggazy is the head of the "popular committee," which represents the regime of Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi in the Italian capital. The committee was formed in 1979 as a substitute for the post of ambassador.

Italian President Sandro Pertini expressed what he called "profound indignation" for the attack, the president's office said.

A reconstruction carried by the Italian news agency ANSA based on police reports said the gunmen were "elegantly dressed" and apparently used at least one silenced-equipped pistol.

It said Mr. Taggazy was intercepted as he walked to his car, parked in a garage beneath his apartment on the narrow, winding via Moggiaccio, in Rome's residential northern district.

The gunmen dragged him to a corner of the building's driveway and fired shots from a pistol hidden inside a plastic bag, the report said.

No group claimed responsibility

for the attack, and it was not clear whether the shooting was politically motivated.

Police combed the area in search of the two men, reported no leads on the attack.

A police spokesman, asking not to be identified by name, said the Libyan was "critically wounded" in the attack.

An official of Italy's anti-terrorist police who also asked not to be identified by name, commented: "We are still in the dark."

Officials at Rome's Umberto Hospital described the 43-year-old diplomat's condition as "critical." He was reportedly wounded in the head, the abdomen and in one shoulder.

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هكذا صنعنا لادخل

Reagan considering strikes against kamikaze attackers

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan is considering a pre-emptive strike against any aircraft which may be armed for kamikaze attacks on U.S. ships off the coast of Lebanon, senior administration officials said Friday night.

They said light planes and perhaps helicopters could strike at the Sixth Fleet, including the battleship New Jersey.

The officials also expressed concern about apparent "kamikaze-type" threats by terrorists using aircraft against U.S. naval vessels in the Gulf and Indian Ocean areas.

The United States "may launch a pre-emptive strike against aircraft believed to be being made ready by terrorists for such attacks on American warships," they said. "So far, all U.S. combat in Lebanon has been in retaliation for an attack. The New Jersey's 16-inch guns have been used to bombard positions in the mountains east of Beirut Airport when U.S. Marines stationed there as part of a multinational force have come under fire."

U.S. fighter planes also carried out a bombing mission against Syrian positions in Lebanon on Dec. 4 after American reconnaissance flights were fired on.

About 1,600 U.S. Marines are serving in Lebanon alongside French, British and Italian troops. A suicide truck bombing killed 241 American servicemen at Beirut Airport headquarters on Oct. 23 and the Reagan administration has since tightened security around the Marines.

ABC Television News Friday night quoted intelligence sources

as saying Islamic fundamentalists had obtained light planes and perhaps helicopters.

These recently had been moved closer to their targets but had not yet been "married-up" with their Iranian-trained pilots, the report said.

Intelligence sources said the planes were not on Syrian territory although Damascus was believed to have acquiesced in training of the pilots by Iran, according to ABC.

Israeli State Television reported Friday U.S. navy units off Lebanon were on high alert, fearing a kamikaze-style attack.

The Israeli report said U.S. planes were closely observing all flights entering or leaving Israeli and Lebanese air space.

Senior American officials said all U.S. navy units in the Lebanon, Gulf and Indian Ocean areas were on a high alert.

Senator visits Beirut

BEIRUT (A.P.) — U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan said after a Saturday tour of the U.S. Marine base in Beirut that "No one should underestimate the danger these Marines face."

The New York Democrat, who is the vice chairman of the Senate's Select Committee on Intelligence, was in Beirut to look at

the intelligence network that is used to gather and analyse information for the Marine contingent.

"Questions have been raised about the intelligence network... and I wanted to see it" to prepare a report for the committee, he said.

A Pentagon investigation following the Oct. 23 truck bomb attack that killed 241 American servicemen in Beirut was critical of both the security at the base and the intelligence support the Marines were receiving.

While declining to discuss specifics Sen. Moynihan said of the Marines here that "they are up against a set of threats, half of which they can't define by the nature of the terrorism, some of which you couldn't prevent no matter how much you prepared, some of which you clearly can prevent and are being prevented."

He noted that security at the base at Beirut International Airport "is comparably better" than it was prior to the October attack. "The experience is better, too," he added. "But no one should underestimate the danger these men are in."

Sen. Moynihan said that he had met with government officials in Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Israel before his trip to Lebanon but that he had no plans to talk with government officials here.

Before coming ashore at the Marine base, Sen. Moynihan had toured the aircraft carrier USS Independence and the amphibious assault ship USS Guam off the Lebanese coast.

He was scheduled to travel to the battleship USS New Jersey, also off the coast, before returning to the United States.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan listens to Mr. Izzat Ibrahim, vice-president of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, during informal talks they had during the fourth Islamic summit

which concluded Thursday at Casablanca, Morocco (Hassan outlines Jordanian contribution to OIC summit, page 3)

Beirut streets becoming dangerous for American, French diplomats

By Andrew Tarnowski
Reuters

BEIRUT (R) — The killing of the president of the American University of Beirut is the latest in a sudden upsurge of attacks on individual foreigners that has turned West Beirut into an assassins' stalking ground.

Since the New Year West Beirut's war-scarred streets have grown increasingly dangerous for foreign diplomats, particularly Americans and French.

The individual attacks appear to mark the opening of a new campaign by Muslim militants to force a withdrawal of the Beirut Multinational Force.

Since Jan. 3, three people linked to the French embassy have narrowly escaped death and a Saudi Arabian diplomat was abducted by gunmen 24 hours before American University President Malcolm Kerr was shot.

The 52-year-old professor, shot on campus by men with silenced pistols, was the first foreign resident with neither diplomatic, political nor military links to his government to be killed.

His death signalled an apparent escalation of such hit-and-run attacks to include any prominent French or American nationals in Beirut.

Western sources in the Lebanese capital say they believe the attacks are linked and are the latest tactic of Muslim fundamentalists trying to force out the Multinational troops.

Other observers think the militants may be simply manoeuvring into position to claim the credit when the inevitable pullout of the force occurs — thus gaining a new following for their radical cause.

The Shiite Muslim fundamentalist group "Islamic Jihad" (holy war), which said it killed Mr. Kerr and was also holding Saudi Consul Hussein Farash in the same group that has claimed responsibility for all major attacks on the Multinational Force during the past year. These include a string of truck bombings and the destruction of the U.S. embassy in Beirut last April.

An anonymous Arabi-speaking caller claiming to represent the group said: "We promise you that no American or Frenchman will remain on this soil."

"We will not cease these methods and we will pursue their (of the Americans and the French) Lebanese and Arab agents, whether they are leaders, politicians or military men."

Western sources say the U.S. embassy, now partly located at the British embassy, has received warnings from intelligence sources that American diplomats might also be the targets of assassination attempts.

The sources date the start of the new tactics to late December when a U.S. Marine guarding the American embassy on the Beirut seaford was wounded in the hand by a shot from a silenced weapon.

Since then, several attacks on non-American diplomatic per-

sonnel have borne similar trademarks — gunmen with silenced pistols, usually riding motorcycles, have fired at intended victims emerging from their homes or driving in embassy cars through West Beirut.

The wife of the French cultural attache and an Egyptian diplomat in a French embassy car have been wounded in broad daylight.

The attacks have coincided with tighter security measures by U.S. and French troops since the twin suicide truck bombings last October that killed 241 U.S. servicemen and 58 French paratroopers.

The U.S. Marines around Beirut Airport are now bunkered down behind earthworks and concrete barricades. Many of the men live permanently underground in sandbagged bunkers.

Although French troops still man checkpoints in West Beirut, security at their fortified command posts makes it difficult for attackers to approach within 50 metres.

But along with the assassination campaign there has been an upsurge of almost nightly hit-and-run attacks on French posts by gunmen firing automatic weapons and throwing grenades.

The switch from heavy attacks on troop concentrations to hit-and-run strikes at vulnerable points in West Beirut was underlined on Jan. 8.

On that day a U.S. Marine was killed in a Lebanese army seaford compound by gunmen

Camp David is dead for Egypt, King Hassan says

CASABLANCA (A.P.) — Morocco's King Hassan II on Friday quoted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak as saying that "for Egypt, Camp David is dead."

That attitude to the 1978 peace agreement between Egypt and Israel made it possible to foresee an end to the suspension of Egypt from membership of the 45-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), the Moroccan leader told a press conference in his palace.

A stormy summit conference of the OIC ended late Thursday with a majority voting to reinstate Egypt, suspended in 1980 because of the agreement with Israel.

Egypt notified the organisation Friday it would receive a four-member delegation to discuss its return to the Islamic family of nations.

King Hassan said he was quoting Mr. Mubarak when he said that Egypt had "obtained the fruits" of the Camp David agreements, having "recovered its lands and its oil" in the formerly Israeli-occupied Sinai, and that consequently "the substance of Camp David has been emptied."

King Hassan said that delegation appointed by the summit would be led by Guinea's President Ahmed Sekou Toure and

include the foreign ministers of Pakistan and Iraq, and OIC Secretary-General Habib Chami. He did not announce his schedule.

King Hassan said Mr. Mubarak made the remarks to him when the two met in New York last fall in the U.S. General Assembly meeting.

"The committee's forthcoming discussions in Cairo will determine whether the Egyptian and Islamic viewpoints can be reconciled," King Hassan said. "The committee will report back to me, and if the results are positive, I would not rule out convening a special meeting of the Islamic conference to take action on the matter."

The summit called on Egypt to endorse "the principles, rules and decisions" of the Islamic movement, but did not publicly elaborate on this demand. There were conflicting interpretations of whether Egypt would be required to issue an explicit repudiation of the Camp David agreements as the price for returning to the Islamic group.

Mr. Mubarak has stated that he would not accept such a demand, but he notified the summit that he was willing to receive Mr. Sekou Toure's committee in Cairo to discuss Egypt's readmission.

S. Arabia seeks help to combat oil pollution

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (A.P.) — Norwegian Minister of Transport and Trade Speilhoek began talks Saturday to extend Oslo's expertise and technology to Saudi Arabia to help the oil-rich kingdom combat environmental pollution from wide-scale extraction operations.

Mr. Speilhoek arrived in this Saudi capital city late Friday at the invitation of the general manager of Saudi Ports Authority, Fayez Badr.

Mr. Badr told the Associated Press that Norway's assistance was called upon in particular because of its experience in the joint oil operations with the United Kingdom in the North Sea.

"The coasts of the Arabian Gulf and the Red Sea are similar to those of Norway's coasts where length and width are concerned," Mr. Badr said.

He also said that the kingdom was planning to install the "most modern equipment for marine guidance" from Norway.

He had already visited Oslo and inspected such equipment last year, Mr. Badr added.

86 Iranian Communists sentenced to prison

BEIRUT (A.P.) — Iran's military tribunal sentenced 86 members of the defunct Tudeh Communist Party to prison sentences ranging from life to less than one year, the official Iranian News Agency IRNA said Saturday.

The sentences were the first announced in the trials that began in December and ended last Tuesday for members of the underground military cell of the outlawed party.

IRNA has said in the past that most of the defendants were charged with disobeying Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's order against belonging to a political party while a member of the military.

It said Saturday that Hojatoleslam Mohammad Reza Shahi, the Islamic judge of the military, sentenced six defendants to life

imprisonment. Mr. Reza Shahi said four persons had been freed for committing minor offenses and repenting to the tribunal, IRNA said. It also said sentences had not yet been decided for 13 persons.

Mr. Reza Shahi was quoted as saying the charges against the defendants were in four categories — "attempts to overthrow the Islamic Republic, espionage, gathering and hiding weapons, and violating the decree against membership of military men in political parties."

The only name of any defendant mentioned was that of former Navy Commander Bahrām Afzali, but the report did not say what sentence he received. It said several colonels were among the defendants.

Kyprianou discusses trade with EC

BRUSSELS (R) — The Republic of Cyprus will do all it can to keep the newly-proclaimed Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus from strengthening its economic and political independence, Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou said Friday.

Mr. Kyprianou told reporters after talks with European Commission President Gaston Thorn that his own goal was to reunite

both parts of the island.

He said Mr. Thorn reiterated that Community policy was to grant preferential access to Cypriot goods only if these were accompanied by official trade documents from the Republic of Cyprus. This could help isolate Northern Cyprus economically and step up pressure on Turkish Cypriots to join the negotiating table for talks on reunification, he

added. Cyprus and the European Community are linked by a co-operation agreement ensuring duty-free access of most Cypriot industrial goods and farm produce.

Mr. Kyprianou said that a commission delegation would visit Cyprus before mid-February to look for ways to abolish remaining trade barriers.

Turkey captures 20 Kurdish gang suspects

ISTANBUL, Turkey (A.P.) — Turkish martial law authorities in the southern city of Adana said Friday that 20 alleged members of a Kurdish separatist gang were captured in a series of raids in the area.

An announcement by the martial law command, based in the fourth-largest Turkish city, said those arrested will be charged with trying to revive the regional branch of the violent Kurdish Workers Party, popularly known as "Apocular."

The announcement did not give exact dates of what were described as "a series of operations" aimed

at wiping out the underground activities of the armed secessionist Kurdish band.

The announcement did not identify the suspects by name, adding that security forces found seven pistols and forged identity cards in their possession.

The Adana Martial Law Centre is responsible for six adjacent provinces with an estimated ethnic Kurdish population of 500,000.

The announcement said some of the suspects told military investigators they received "training in foreign countries."

The Kurdish Workers Party had waged an armed terror campaign

in remote parts of Turkey before the 1980 military takeover, killing more than 500 people in ambush attacks and snipings in southeastern provinces.

The group sought to establish a left-wing Kurdish state in predominantly Kurdish-inhabited areas of Turkey.

A nationwide crackdown on terrorism launched by the 1980 military regime grounded up 3,000 suspected militants.

Turkey's estimated 6 million Kurds, out of an overall population of 48 million, live in the poor provinces in the remote southeastern parts of Asia minor.

Australian aid starts Mideast, Africa tour

CANBERRA (R) — Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden left Saturday at the start of a 25-day tour of the Middle East and Africa.

He said the main aim of the trip was to gather information for decision-making by the Labour government which came to power 11 months ago.

Australia has a peacekeeping force in Sinai and is seeking closer

links with African countries, particularly in the Indian Ocean region.

"The Indian Ocean is as important to Australia as the Pacific region — we forget that too often," Mr. Hayden told a news conference before his departure.

He goes first to Singapore, where he will stay overnight before going to Egypt on the first leg

of a tour which will also take him to Jordan, Israel, and Syria.

Mr. Hayden said he did not want to get his role in the Middle East out of proportion, stating he was conscious of the restraints on Australia compared to the superpowers.

In Africa, he will visit Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Mauritius.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

16:30 Koran
16:40 Cartoon
18:00 Children's Programmes
18:30 Circus
19:30 Programme Review
20:00 Local Programme
20:30 News in Arabic
21:15 Local Programme on Jordan
21:15 Arabic Series
22:00 News Summary

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Best Seller: Little Gloria — Happy At Last
22:00 News in English
22:15 Jane Eyre: Eps. 3

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM 5.99 MHz, FM
(partly on 95.80 KHz, SW)

07:30 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
09:00 News Summary
10:00 Morning Show
10:00 Pop Session
11:00 News Summary
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instruments
14:30 News Summary
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 News Summary
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Jazz Hour
19:30 Newsdesk
20:00 Date with a Star
21:00 Evening Show
21:00 Science Report
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show
23:00 News Summary
23:05 Evening Show
24:00 News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE

634, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 The Bach Family
06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 British Press Review 07:15 Letterbox 07:30 Short Takes 07:45 Letter from America 07:50 Newsdesk 08:30 Jazz for the Auking 09:00 World News 09:05 News About Britain 09:15 From Our Own Correspondent 09:30 English Hours 09:50 Recording of the Week 10:00 World News 10:05 Reflections 10:15 The Pleasure's Yours 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 Science in Action 11:45 Sports Review 12:15 Classical Record Review 12:30 Religious Service 13:00 World News 13:05 News About Britain 13:15 Letter from America 13:25 Play of the Week 13:30 World News 13:35 Commentary 13:45 Good Books 13:50 The Painter of Signs 13:55 The Sandi Jones Request Show 14:00 The Tiger Trap 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 Concert Hall 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 From our own Correspondent 18:35 Financial Review 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 World News 19:05 Maritima 19:30 Reflections 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Jazz Score 21:00 Pled Piper 21:15 Mr. Wrong 22:00 World News 22:05 Commentary 22:15 Letterbox 22:30 Sunday Half-Hour 23:00 Personal Impact 23:15 The Pleasure's Yours 24:00 World News 00:05 Science in Action 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:05 Commentary 01:15 Letter from America 01:30 Blind Spot

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260, KHz 7200, 9365, 11740, 11925 & 12210

06:00 VOA Morning News on the hour: news summaries; daily business report; science and medicine; sports reports. VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundup; documentary analysis; features 17:00 News 17:10 News Horizons and New Products 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 International Viewpoints 18:30 Music USA Standards 19:00 News 19:10 Critic's Choice 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:10 Sunday Report 20:30 Issues in the News 21:00 News

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITION

* "Orientalism" original paintings, at the Allen Art Gallery.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 66110267
American Centre 44371
French Cultural Centre 41520
British Council 36147-8
Friedrich Schlegel Centre 37109
Goethe Institute 41903
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24044
Turkish Cultural Centre 36777
Hays Arts Centre 665195
Hussein Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251
Aman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 943555

MUSEUMS

Falafure Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquity of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.)
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of '16. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

PRAYER TIMES

06:13 Fajr
06:35 (Sunrise) Shuruq
07:00 Duhr
14:40 'Asr
17:00 Maghreb
18:22 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, Tel. (06) 53250, 53079, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel. 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel. 1:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel. 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweideh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.
Armenian International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249.

DEPARTURES

05:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:30 Beirut (RJ)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
07:40 Damascus, Paris (AF)
08:00 Cairo (EA)
08:05 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:10 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:15 Cairo (EA)
12:30 Larnaca, Tripoli (LN)
14:30 Kuwait (KAC)
15:30 Jeddah (SV)
15:30 Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)
19:40 Jeddah (RJ)
19:40 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)

ARRIVALS

19:45 Damascus (RJ)
19:50 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:15 Baghdad (RJ)
20:30 Cairo (RJ)
21:05 Cairo (EA)
21:15 Dubai, Mascot (RJ)
21:30 Bangkok (RJ)
21:40 Baghdad, London (BA)
02:05 Cairo (RJ)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jls
Belgian franc 65.3 / 65.7
Dutch guilder 118.5 / 119.2
Egyptian guinea 329.3 / 333.3
French franc 43.6 / 43.9
Iraqi dinar 375 / 383.3
Italian lire (for 100) 22 / 22.2
Japanese yen (for 100) 160.1 / 161.1
Kuwaiti dinar 1273.3 / 1280
Lebanese lira 64.9 / 66.2
Omani rial 107.3 / 109.5
Qatari rial 102.6 / 103.1
Saudi rial 107 / 107.6
Swiss franc 45.9 / 46.1
U.K. sterling pound 527.8 / 531
U.S. dollar 375 / 377
W. German mark 133.3 / 134.1

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be fair, with southeasterly moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg.C

Amman 21.3
Agaba 70.0
Dhahran 17.6
Jordan Valley 52.0

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 13, Agaba 19. Humidity readings: Amman 44 per cent, Agaba 44 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Fire, fire, police 199
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 22400-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Electric Power Co. 56390-1
Municipal water service 36301-2
Queen Alia Int. Airport (06) 53333

Hassan outlines contribution of Islamic summit conference



AMMAN (J.T.) — The Islamic Summit in Casablanca made an objective assessment of the situation in the Islamic World and opened the door for Egypt's return to the Arab and Islamic nations' fold. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan was quoted as saying in a press statement published here Saturday.

He told the Arabic language daily newspaper, Sawt Al Shaab, that Asia and Africa had played a leading role in emphasising the priorities for joint Islamic action. Egypt carries significant weight on the African continent and can assume a leading role in solving complicated issues in the region particularly the issue of Jerusalem, the conference's symbol. The Casablanca conference was characterised by its dynamic spirit and its speed in tackling chronic issues, and has paved the way for

political cooperation among Islamic nations to establish their identity world-wide. Prince Hassan said.

He continued by saying that the Islamic nations respect the stand of the superpowers but refuse the policy of polarisation while also refusing to leave to others the task of fighting their own wars.

This is because "such a stand is bound to cause further divisions in the Islamic Nation which should have the right both politically and geographically to have a say at a time when the superpowers are debating the future of the world's peace."

In the interview, Prince Hassan voiced his appreciation of King Hassan II of Morocco and the Moroccan people for their hospitality and their support which, he said, was a major factor in making the conference a success.

'Obeidat meets delegation of Dutch deputies, reviews bilateral relations

AMMAN (J.T.) — A six-member Dutch parliamentary delegation Saturday called on Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat and reviewed with him relations between Jordan and the Netherlands.

The delegation, which arrived here Friday on a visit expected to last several days, also extended to Mr. 'Obeidat their congratulations on his appointment to the post of premier.

The delegation, comprising two representatives of the Dutch Social Democratic Party, two from the Christian Democrats and two from the Liberal Party, is headed by Mr. Klaas G. de Vries. Later on in their tour they are scheduled to go around refugee camps and hold talks with other leading officials.

Before meeting the prime minister, the delegation members were received by Ahmad Al Lawzi, speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, who explained the Arab countries' drive to establish a just and com-

prehensive Middle East peace.

The Arabs have proved to the world, through the resolution they issued at the Fez summit, that they want to establish a comprehensive peace, he said.

We have also reaffirmed Europe's role in helping to achieve that peace in view of the strong links and common bond of interests that Europe has with the Arab Nation, Mr. Lawzi added at the meeting.

He said that Europe's peace, as well as that of the Arab World, will be disturbed if the Israeli occupation and Israel's expansionist policies are allowed to continue.

Mr. Lawzi spoke about Israel's drive to Judaize the Arab lands and evict the indigenous population from their homeland. He also voiced his appreciation to the delegation members for congratulating Jordan upon the restoration of parliamentary life, and stressed that parliamentary rule constitutes a cornerstone of the

country's political life.

The meeting was attended by Upper House Members Hazem Nusseibeh and Farah Abu Jaber.

The Dutch delegation was also received by Akef Al Fayed, speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, who stressed that Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, is keen to safeguard the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including the right to self-determination in Palestine.

Mr. Fayed also spoke about Israel's intransigent stand, its disregard for all peace initiatives and its drive to perpetuate its occupation of Arab territory.

He expressed the hope that the delegation will convey to Holland the true situation in the Middle East region.

In the meeting, Mr. Fayed also explained the procedures of Jordan's democratic activity and about the country's return to parliamentary life.

Fayez chairs third ordinary session of Lower House of Parliament

New West Bank deputies sworn in

By Elia Z. Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament will meet Sunday to review a reply to the speech from the throne which was endorsed by the Lower House of Parliament Saturday.

The House is then expected to form a committee to accompany the House's Speaker, Ahmad Al Lawzi, in carrying the reply to His Majesty King Hussein. Also on the agenda is a review of the previous sessions and topics to be slated for the next meeting.

The Lower House of Parliament, which held a meeting Saturday under the chairmanship of its Speaker Akef Al Fayed, endorsed a reply to the throne as prepared by an ad hoc committee, and set up a team to accompany Mr. Fayez in carrying the reply to the King.

The meeting, the third held by the Lower House in its current ordinary session, was attended by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat and cabinet members.

At the outset of the meeting, the deputies witnessed the newly elected members take the constitutional oath. They are: Daoud Mohammad Suleiman Daoud, Mohammad Salem Al Thweib, Ribhi Mustafa, Fayyad Jarrar, Ma'rouf Rabbah, Ziyad Yunes, and Dr. Musa Abu Ghosh.

The elected members made speeches soon afterwards expressing their appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty King Hussein for his decision to restore parliamentary life to the country, and also thanked the Lower House for electing them as deputies to speak for their constituencies on the West Bank.

In their speeches, the seven members also paid tribute to the Arab population under Israeli occupation rule for their steadfastness and their endeavours in aborting the Zionist enemy's attempts to evict Palestinians from their homeland. They also called for additional efforts on the part of Jordan and the PLO and also for Arab and international moves to end the occupation.

They praised the role of the



Ziyad Yunes Ma'rouf Rabbah Fayyad Jarrar Musa Abu Ghosh Ribhi Mustafa Mohammad Thweib Daoud Suleiman

Jordanian armed forces and demanded that they be provided with all the necessary military equipment and modern weaponry to enable them to boost their ability to defend the nation.

The visiting six member Dutch parliamentary delegation attended the Lower House's session and heard a welcoming speech by Mr. Fayez.

Following is a profile of the newly elected West Bank deputies:

Ribhi Mustafa, Bethlehem
Born in Bettir near Bethlehem in 1930, Mr. Mustafa completed his schooling in Jerusalem in 1945 and later studied at the agricultural college near Tulkarm where he graduated with a diploma in 1947.

Mr. Mustafa worked for several institutions in Jordan and Saudi Arabia and at one time held the post of director of the Arab Cement Factory Company in the West Bank.

Bank and the Agricultural Cooperative Society in Bethlehem.

Mr. Mustafa also worked in the government office in Hebron in 1965 and in 1966 he was appointed district governor in Ramallah, a post which he held until January 1984.

Mr. Mustafa was elected Member of Parliament for the Bethlehem constituency in the 1963 elections.

He is married and has four daughters and three sons.

Daoud Suleiman Daoud, Jerusalem
Born in Jerusalem in 1940, Mr. Daoud completed his secondary school education in the city and later travelled to West Germany where he obtained a diploma in contracting management in 1957.

He has worked in the contracting business since 1960 in the West Bank and also on the East Bank.

Mr. Daoud is a well-known businessman in Jordan and most recently he was elected president of the Jordanian Contractors Association.

Mohammad Al Thweib, Bethlehem

Born near Bethlehem, Mr. Thweib completed his secondary school education in the city and later obtained a bachelor degree in Arabic literature from the Arab University of Beirut in 1967.

He also obtained a diploma in administration from the University of Jordan in 1983.

The Thweib worked for the Ministry of Education for 23 years and at present lives in Amman.

Mr. Thweib is married and has six children.

Fayyad Jarrar, Jenin

Born in the village of Sanour near Jenin in 1944, Mr. Jarrar completed his secondary education in 1958 and then obtained a diploma in Islamic law from Damascus University.

Mr. Yunes worked as a teacher in Jordan, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia for 19 years.

Mr. Yunes was arrested by the Israeli authorities and later released but was banned from leaving the West Bank for one year for his role in sabotaging the work of the Israeli-sponsored Village League in the Tulkarm district.

Musa Abu Ghosh, Ramallah

Born in 'Imwas village in the Ramallah district in 1924, Mr. Abu Ghosh completed his education in a local school and then, went to Egypt where he obtained his law degree in 1952.

At present he is a practising private physician in Ramallah and holds the post of chairman of the Islamic Charitable Society in Jerusalem.

completed his secondary school education in Sanour and later worked for the customs office between 1967 and 1983.

Mr. Jarrar now lives in Amman.

Ma'rouf Rabbah, Jenin

Born near Jenin in 1926, Mr. Rabbah completed his education in Jenin and worked there in business for 30 years, moving between Jenin, Nablus and Amman.

He served as a member of the Nablus Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of the West Bank Chambers of Commerce, and now holds the post of director-general of a business company in Amman.

Mr. Rabbah was elected as a Member of Parliament in the 1963 elections.

Ziyad Yunes, Tulkarm

Born in Qalqilya on the occupied West Bank in 1940, Mr. Yunes completed his secondary education in 1958 and then obtained a diploma in Islamic law from Damascus University.

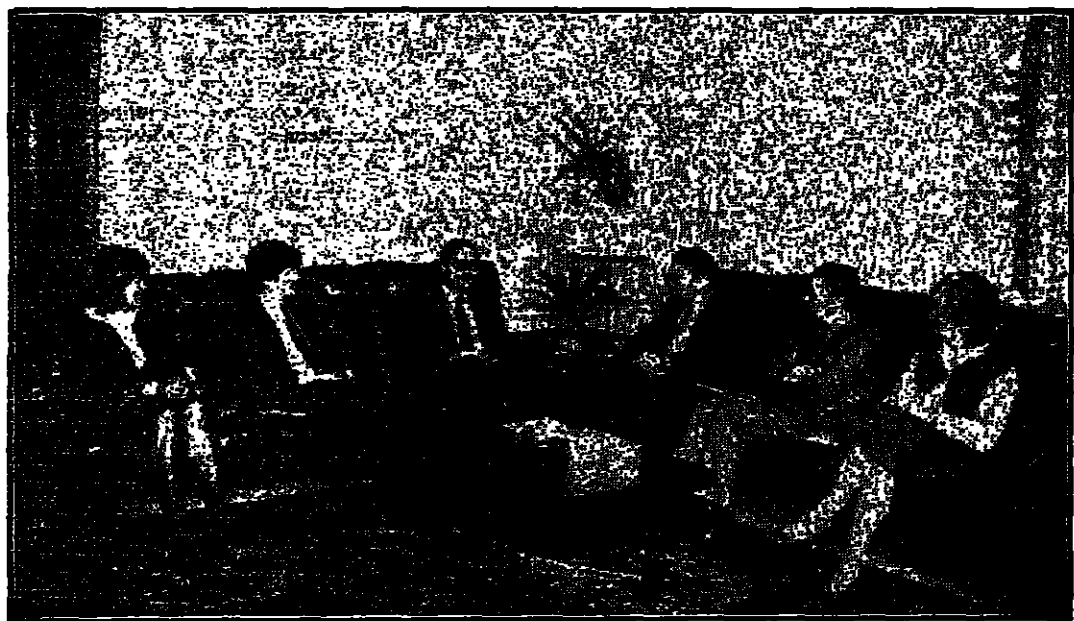
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Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat (third from left) from Holland currently here on a several day visit meets Saturday a delegation of parliamentarians (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Minister details public works policy

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The value of contracts issued by the central government tender department at the Ministry of Public Works reached JD 55 million in 1983. All tenders were granted to local contractors except one tender, which was worth JD 1,650,000, which was granted to a foreign firm, the tender being financed by a loan. Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijm said Saturday.

Speaking at his first press conference since taking office, Dr. Nijm said road construction and maintenance projects last year cost the government JD 40,363,000, the rest being spent on the construction of government buildings, consulting and project design fees.

The Ministry of Public Works is one of the ministries providing services to citizens and contributing to the Jordanian infrastructure through the construction of main roads, secondary roads, rural roads and public service buildings that are vital for the development effort in the Kingdom, Dr. Nijm said.

The Ministry of Public Works will focus on the adoption and implementation of a policy based on a scientific basis to enable it carry out its principal duties of constructing a network of roads and public service buildings to serve the various sectors of the Kingdom," he said.

The ministry is in the process of initiating a comprehensive plan for all types of roads in the Kingdom, he said. The plan will include roads already built, those under construction and roads to

be constructed in the future, in coordination with the various ministries and public institutions, Dr. Nijm said.

Within the next few years, the ministry will implement the construction of 10 main roads connecting different areas in the country from the north to the south and from the east to the west, Dr. Nijm added.

The minister also said that there is a study underway for a new type of road construction known as "bridge highways" which the ministry is currently considering. Such a project, he added, would be financed by the contractors themselves along with other local investors who would recoup their money and thus make a profit by operating a toll system. This system would have the added advantage of easing the financial burden on the government budget.

On the other hand, Dr. Nijm said, the adaptation of this project will not affect roads already constructed or other service roads to be constructed in the near future.

The ministry will also work with a machinery and equipment firm by renting all required machinery and equipment from them for the execution of projects without buying them: a process which has proved to be an unnecessary waste of money in the past.

All projects adopted by the ministry will be executed according to its priorities, and the 1984 budget allocated for the ministry in cooperation with the concerned authorities. JD 16 million has been allocated for the construction and maintenance of roads in the Kingdom and JD 1 million to finalise building projects, he added.

Dr. Nijm told reporters that the

ministry will also be increasing its cooperation with the International Roads Federation in order to benefit from scientific assistance which will reflect positively on the road network. There will also be technical cooperation between the ministry and the Jordan Road Society in matters pertinent to the development of regulations relating to high ways in the country.

Coordination with the Jordanian Concrete Society and the Building Materials Research Centre at the Royal Scientific Society will be needed as well to improve the quality of concrete used in construction projects, he said. There will also be cooperation with the Jordanian Engineers Association to develop the rules of their profession in a way so as to give priority to local consulting engineers offices over foreign ones in ministry projects, the minister added.

Concerning funds allocated for the maintenance of roads for this year, Dr. Nijm said that only JD 2 million had been allocated for that purpose, although it is internationally known that two per cent of the total cost of roads is required for maintenance. The roads in Jordan, Dr. Nijm pointed out, cost about JD 300 million to build.

Commenting on the spontaneous excavation work carried out on the Amman streets without coordination between various public service authorities, Dr. Nijm said that this is directly the responsibility of the Municipality of Amman which should cooperate with the other relevant authorities.

Laila Sharaf: Women still face long battle

By Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Women have a long battle ahead and several fronts to fight on before ensuring a leading role for themselves in society, Minister of Information Laila Sharaf said here Saturday.

Addressing the opening session of a two-day seminar on the role of the information medium in promoting women's role in development, Mrs. Sharaf said women have to channel their energies through the information medium — the most influential arena in society.

Women, she said, should be allowed to contribute effectively and comprehensively in the country's political, cultural and social life.

Also addressing the opening session was the director of the women's department at the Ministry of Social Development, Mrs. Buthaina Jardaneh, who referred to the importance of the working papers to be submitted to the seminar.

"Information has an enormous potential influence in changing society's image of women from being merely objects of temptation and introducing a totally different image of women as a key element in the building of a modern society," Mrs. Jardaneh said.

The participants in the seminar, which is being organised by the Ministry of Social Development in cooperation with the Princess Rahma Community Centre, will also review several working papers as well as watching a documentary on the activities of women in the centre, which is situated in 'Allan to the west of here.

The participants in the Saturday morning session reviewed a paper presented by Farouk Jarrar on international regulations governing information, and another by Walid Da'is on the role of information in development.

Among Sunday's papers will be one to be submitted by Lima Nabli, a local journalist with Al Ra'i newspaper, which will also focus on the role of information in promoting Jordanian women's activities in social and economic life.

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. college team meets U of J head

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the American University of Boston Saturday called at the University of Jordan and met its President Abdul Salam Al Majali and other senior officials. They discussed ways of bolstering cultural and scientific cooperation between the two universities.

Arab dentistry meeting slated for here

AMMAN (Petra) — The third Jordanian conference on dentistry will be held in Amman on April 12 with the participation of a number of dentists from Arab and foreign countries as well as the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Abdul Jaber visits social security office

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Tayseer Abdul Jaber Saturday called on the Social Security Corporation (SSC) to inform them of an increase in the number of labourers covered by SSC laws, and urged it to put into force a previously declared plan for investment.

Ajlouni, in Irbid, commits ministry to improve standard of health service

IRBID (Petra) — Health Minister Kamel Ajlouni said here Saturday that his ministry will do whatever it can to improve medical services in its clinics and health centres around the country, and will pave the ground by drawing up programmes for this project.

The minister was speaking during a visit to the Princess Basma

Hospital in Irbid where he met doctors and inspected the hospital's various wings.

The minister was briefed on the hospital's needs for equipment and staff, as well as its technical requirements for developing and modernising medical services.

The minister was accompanied

by his under-secretary and senior Health Ministry officials as well as the director of health in the Irbid Governorate.

He later held a separate meeting with the director of health here and was fully briefed on the health conditions existing in the governorate.

Lecture to explore latest research on lands of the Queen of Sheba

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Possible ancient trading, linguistic and cultural links between south Jordan and the fabled lands of the Queen of Sheba, in modern Yemen, will be among the subjects discussed in a slide lecture here tonight (Sunday) by a distinguished American archaeologist who has worked both in Jordan and Yemen.

Dr. Jim Sauer, president of the American Schools of Oriental Research (ASOR) and former director of the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR) in Amman, will give a lecture at 6:30 p.m. tonight at ACOR, entitled "New Archaeological Research near Marib, Yemen".

The ancient kingdoms of the region of Yemen, at the southwestern corner of the Arabian Peninsula, included some of the richest and most advanced cultures of their time, during a period of nearly 2,000 years before and after the advent of Christianity. Between about 1300 BC and 600 AD, the Sabaeen Kingdom dominated that region, leaving behind traces of enormous architectural works such as the famous Marib dam. Little has been known of the precise ancient chronology of the area, but an ongoing project there headed by ASOR, and in cooperation with ACOR and the Sanaa, North Yemen-based American Institute for Yemeni Studies, has started to unravel the mysteries of that rich ancient culture. The work in Yemen is being financed by the American Foundation for the Study of Man.

Juba Valley

Dr. Sauer will talk about the

work being done in the 25-kilometre-long Juba Valley, near the border of North and South Yemen, in the heartland of the old Sabaeen Kingdom that produced the Queen of Sheba and flourished by a combination of sophisticated agriculture and widespread trading activity. The Juba Valley, only five kilometres wide, runs between the Yemeni mountains to the east and the Rub Al Khali, or the Empty Quarter desert region of Saudi Arabia, to the west. The valley was a key caravan and trade route in antiquity, through which passed the lucrative incense and spice trade that was one of the pillars of the later commercial importance of Petra, the Nabataean capital in southern Jordan.

The work in the Juba Valley has already identified a major city, many smaller villages, a series of dams and considerable agricultural activity, spanning the period from 1300 BC to 400 BC.

The area is also the heartland of the south Arabian cultures that are linked with Jordan through linguistics. The Sabaic and Thamudic scripts, for example, that are seen so frequently on rock inscriptions throughout Jordan, may have originated in the area of Yemen. The totally Arab, pre-Islamic cultures of the Marib area also must have exerted considerable influence on northern Arabia and the region of modern Jordan because of the strong trade links in antiquity.

In his lecture tonight, Dr. Sauer will discuss the findings of the survey and test excavations that have been done to date in the Juba Valley, and will show slides of some of the most interesting aspects of the work to date. He will also answer questions from the audience.

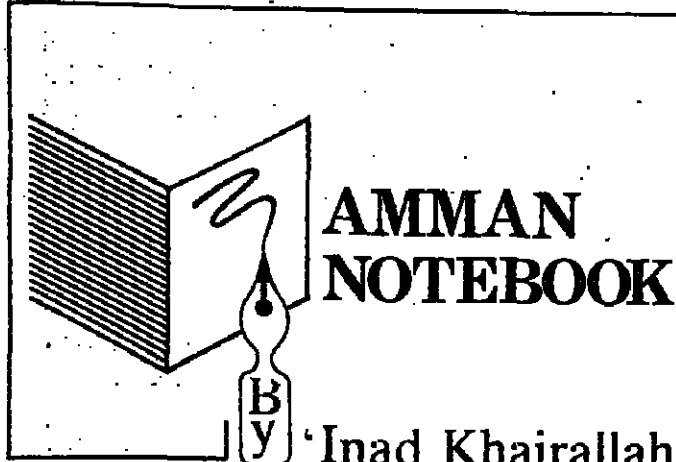
JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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Wadi Sakra Street, Saker and Atiya Building. Tel: 33451



AMMAN NOTEBOOK

Inad Khairallah

THE OTHER DAY I was trying to get the exact arrival time of a flight from the Gulf and I never thought it would be a problem to obtain it from the airport. The airport office of the airline would know better than the city people. I reckoned. I was supposed to pick up a friend of mine who was arriving on the flight and drop him at a hotel but more important than the picking up process was an opportunity to talk with him.

So, there I was, quite confidently dialling 0853250, the number I picked up from the newspaper. First time a recorded female voice answered me that all the lines of the exchange I was dialling were engaged and "would you try again please." Okay, I did, and the same voice answered me again. I decided to give myself some rest and try after 10 minutes. When after that I dialled and got the same answer. I thought it was time I did some research and came up with an alternate number.

I called '12' and the recorded

voice which answered puzzled me. For a moment I thought it was telling me all the lines were engaged in that exchange also, but then I realised it was telling me to hold on and my inquiry would be answered when my turn came. So, I held on, and the recorded answer went on and on until I started repeating it myself. It was no wonder that I could not stop myself repeating the first phrase of the answer to the eventual operator who came on the line. But she corrected me that she was the "inquiries" section and I was the caller and asked me which number I wanted. Well, I would like the number of the airport. I told her. Without any pause she said: "0853250." Very patiently I told her I tried this several times and all the lines were engaged in that exchange and would she be kind enough to give me an alternate number.

After a pause she gave me an alternate number. 085 2000. I thanked her and with renewed vigour tackled the telephone again

It takes an arriving friend to drive you insane

with the new number. No luck. I was getting a busy tone. Several attempts later I got a free line and I could hear the ringing at the other end. But nobody picked up the phone and after exactly one minute the ringing automatically changed into a busy signal.

I tried again and this time proved myself lucky because someone answered. I asked for the airline's office and was told to ring 0853070. I was getting somewhere, I thought, and tried the new number. After several attempts and about a quarter of an hour I got through and was asked to ring 0853200. This number turned out to be non-existent and I went back to 0853070. I told the operator the number he gave me was wrong and would he give me another "please." He advised me to try 0853141 and I ended up with the airport cargo office operator.

I told him I was not expecting my friend to arrive in a cargo plane, but that he would be kind enough to give me the information section. He made some sympathetic sounds and regretted his not having the number.

So, I was back again where I started. I thought it was one of those bad days, but since the matter was of urgent importance, considering that my friend was arriving the same afternoon, I was compelled to try again.

I was in the process of dialling the first number again when a tri-

end of mine walked into my office. I told him to sit down and went ahead with my dialling. Apparently he guessed from the miserable expression on my face that I was trying to call the airport and told me: "If you are trying to get the airport, better have your breakfast and lunch together, so that you do not have to go out." I asked him why.

"They would give you 20 different numbers and everytime you would simply get nowhere," was his reply. I was relieved to note that my miserable experience was not unique and felt compelled to say so.

He waved my thanks aside and inquired whether I was planning to go somewhere outside the country. No such luck. I told him, I was expecting my friend to arrive the same afternoon and all I was interested in was to know what the expected time of arrival was. He asked me which flight and I told him. "It scheduled time is 14.30 but I wouldn't bet on it," he said. I told him he was telling me nothing new, this information was available from the newspaper and as to not banking on it, the newspaper itself said its information had better be verified.

"Here, let me give it a try," my friend said, and took the phone from me. He dialled a number and after a pause gave me the instrument. I could hear the ringing at the other end and someone answered after two or three rings.

I asked for "Information" and was rewarded with "wait a moment please." After a slight delay "Information" came on the line and I asked him what time so and so flight was coming on that day. "Four in the evening," I got the answer and inquired again whether the information was reliable. I was assured that it was.

I hung up and asked my friend to give me the number he dialled so that I could jot it down for future reference. "It is a secret," he said. "It would cost you a lunch for the information."

I rang for the office boy and asked him to get a "lalaff" sandwich. To my puzzled friend I said the sandwich was the "lunch," and since I used to survive on it also, he should not complain. With great reluctance, my friend parted with the number and it turned out to be 0853250, the first number I had started with. I was sorry I offered a sandwich to my friend for this number and told him so. He said I was trying and trying to get the number and it was his "magic fingers" which did the trick, so he deserved more than sandwich.

After the sandwich and a cup of coffee and a little small talk, my friend was about to leave when I remembered to ask him what he came to the office for. He told me to "never mind," for all he wanted was to borrow my car for the afternoon. But since I was going to the airport, he could not very well borrow it, could he? I said no, he

could not. Even otherwise, I told him, I did not believe in lending three things in life: My car, my camera and my girlfriend, and in that order. My friend looked disappointed and left with a curt "bye."

I wanted to doublecheck the timing of the flight so I called the airline's city office. They confirmed the flight was expected at four in the afternoon. I had a couple of hours before going to the airport so I got busy with my work. Around 3.00 I was free.

I thought I should check again whether the flight was further delayed, as I did not like to waste time hanging around the airport to see people leaving for places like London, Rome, New York and others and hurt myself by thinking how lucky they were. So, I called the city office and this time a different voice told me the flight was supposed to have arrived at its actual scheduled time.

How was it possible, I asked him, when I was told a couple of hours earlier the plane was coming in at four? Just because someone told me the plane was coming in at four, the airlines did not believe in delaying the arrival to confirm it, he replied. I guessed it was no use talking to him and hung up. I tried the airport again and somehow got through airline office at the airport. I was lucky to have someone answer it and before I could ask any questions he told me he was just a cleaner doing his job at the

airlines office and there was no-one around. I asked him where everyone was. It seemed that one of the airlines' planes had arrived and everybody was busy outside the office, he said.

I thanked him and hung up. My watch showed 3.10, I did a fast calculation and decided that if I did some fancy driving to the airport I would be able to catch my friend coming out. But since my car not suitable for such a feat I decided to borrow myself a car from the company fleet. After collecting the keys for the company car a thought struck me like lightning. I did not have enough money on me. So I took a loan from a colleague of 20 dinars lest a speed-radar car catch me speeding and ask for a fine.

I rushed down the stairs, got into the car and shot out from the curb to the middle of the road. I chose to ignore the angry blares from other cars and drove on. A look at the gas gauge made grimace at the thought of spending another two minutes and three dinars at a petrol station.

The gas filling done with, I entered the airport highway at Seventh Circle and was doing 100 kilometres in another two minutes. I was sure there would not be any police radar cars before the bridge just before reaching the airport.

Although it was difficult to keep an eye out for police radars as well as airport taxis (in the hope that my friend might have changed his

mind and decided against waiting for me), I reached the airport without any problems other than a slight disappointment that I could not offer a lift to some of those unfortunate people jerking their thumbs at passing cars. But it would have not been exactly easy for me to stop as my speedometer needle hovered over 130-140 kilometre range. (A tip to potential drivers: it takes exactly 18 minutes from Seventh Circle to the airport at 120 kilometres, but don't do it.)

I reached the airport, parked the car in a hurry and ran to the arrival terminal. I could see a lot of passengers coming out and I asked one of them whether the flight I was looking for had arrived. He said he did not know as he was coming from somewhere in Europe.

I approached the information desk and inquired whether the flight had arrived. Yes, it had, I tried to find out whether my friend was still inside although the chances were slim. There was nobody here from the Gulf flight, I was told.

I was disappointed and decided to go back to the office in the vain hope my friend would call me there. So, I drove back and was back in the office in about half an hour. I entered the office to the chatter of the telex machine. I went over to the machine and it was a message from my friend.

"Sorry I could not make today's flight. It will be arriving same flight, same time tomorrow."

Revival of mural painting in China

By Zhang Weimin

PEKING — Mural painting, once one of the glories of ancient Chinese culture, is enjoying a renaissance after a century of decline.

Over the last three years, hundreds of works have been produced for hotels and other institutions. The largest, measuring six metres by 64 metres, is in the lounge of the Guangzhou Commodity Fair.

Yuan Yunfu, head of the Mural Department of the Institute of Arts and Crafts, said mural painting initially spread as Buddhist temples proliferated throughout China. However, he said, the current revival is promoted by the tourist boom as a result of China's open-door policies.

With millions of foreigners coming to visit China, 73 new hotels have been built since 1978 and many existing ones are undergoing renovation. "This keeps orders coming to us one after another. The dreams we have dreamed for decades have come true at long last," Yuan said.

Murals were first painted in China over 3,000 years ago, when they were used to decorate im-

perial courts or coffin chambers. The art reached its peak during the Tang Dynasty (618-907), when murals graced more than 400,000 Buddhist temples. The world-famous Dunhuang murals in Gansu province, northwest China, cover 120,000 square metres. Dozens of other ancient murals in temples or coffin chambers are also now open to tourists.

Mural painting withered following the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Many ancient works in wooden temples decayed, or were destroyed in constant wars.

In addition, fewer and fewer artists painted murals when a scholarly style of painting that emphasised the rendering of brush and ink became popular and murals were considered a time-consuming chore for craftsmen.

After the founding of the new China in 1949, artists tried to revive the mural tradition, but few institutions commissioned their works because of shortages of funds. Their efforts seldom progressed beyond sketches or models.

The new boom began in 1979 when 40 mural painters and craftsmen, led by Zhang Ding, pre-

sident of the Institute of Arts and Crafts, created 13 large-size murals for the newly-constructed Peking International Airport terminal. The works were completed in ten months.

The largest at the airport terminal, 27 by 3.4 metres, by Yuan Yunsheng, is "The Song of Life". It depicts a hundred men and women of the Dai nationality in southwest China splashing water on each other, playing, dancing and bathing during a traditional festival.

Though some new works do use Western abstract styles, Chinese mural painters seem more enthusiastic about exploring ancient styles and themes. A typical work is "The Light of Wisdom" by Yuan Yunfu in Beijing's Yanjing Hotel. It shows 25 outstanding art treasures from various dynasties, including warrior figures from the Emperor Qinshuang's tomb, musical bells from the Warring Period (475-221 B.C.) and the Dunhuang Buddhist Frescos.

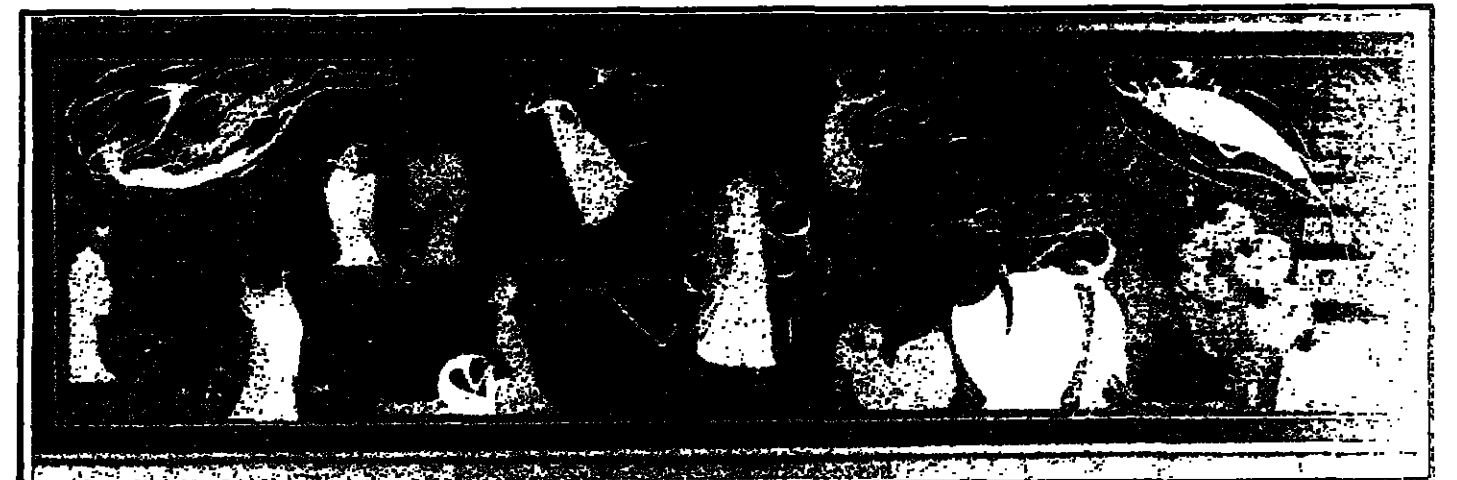
Since most new murals are displayed in hotel restaurants or lounges, related themes like landscapes, legendary episodes or historical tales are usually selected

by commissioners. So often are these motifs presented that artists are now concerned that the themes have been overused.

Despite the standstill in mural painting during the past hundred years, Chinese traditional handicraft techniques and materials have developed rapidly, especially since 1949. So when mural painting began to revive, a wide-range of sources were available.

Glazed tiles are now employed to combine traditional Chinese ceramics with the art of painting. Each hand-painted tile helps form an overall design resembling western mosaics, which are made by inlaying pieces of coloured material to form pictures or patterns. But the firing of glazed tile is more challenging. The painted glaze enters the kiln in one colour and changes its hue only during the process of firing. If the firing is not done correctly, the finished tile will be difficult to match with the rest of the mural.

Early this year artist Fan Zeng, in collaboration with the Peking Handicraft Factory, completed ceramic murals of 18 celebrated Buddhist monks. The murals are now on permanent display in the



"The Story of the White Snake", a mural painting at the Peking International Airport. (200 by 700 centimetres)

Guangjiao Temple at Nantong, in Jiangsu province. A breakthrough embodied in these works is their adoption of traditional Chinese painting into ceramics. On a snow-white background of glazed tiles, 2.2 by 1.3 metres, is rendered a figure in black. Though the black is glazed, it appears to have been done with brush and ink in the traditional Chinese painting style.

Western acrylics are also used in some of the new works, but Chinese artists prefer to blend the

new medium with traditional mineral pigments to give their works a distinctive flavour. In his "Light of Wisdom," Yuan Yunfu used a mixture of acrylics, powdered gold and silver, a traditional Chinese pigment often used in ancient murals. The lifelike figures are a major characteristic of Chinese painting.

An exhibition of murals created by teachers at the Central Academy of Fine Arts held last October demonstrated an even wider range of media, some on trial.

They included wax-dyeing on wood, and lacquers.

While creating new works, Chinese artists are also rescuing ancient murals facing destruction through corrosion and negligence. In Tibet, ancient religious frescoes have been restored although some artists felt the action devalued the murals.

Travelling to remote mountainous areas, artists in Yunnan, Xinjiang and Tibet have made over 500 reproductions of ancient

murals in temples or grottoes for display in Peking and other cities. Publications on ancient murals are also on the increase, including the latest, a multi-volume collection of murals in Shanxi province.

As impressive as the current revival is, most of the new works are for indoor display. Outdoor murals are few. Li Linzhao, a teacher of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, said, "A further flourishing depends on more investment from more public institutions." — China Features.

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Jordan's Yousef Soufwan (right) on his way to beating Sri Lanka's Ramzie in the squash team event Saturday.

Zaman claims Asian squash title

By Anne Counsell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — World number 2, Qamar Zaman from Pakistan won the Second Asian Squash Championship singles title when he beat Maqsood Ahmed, world number 6 also from Pakistan 9-4, 9-2, 9-1 in the final held at Sports City here Saturday.

Despite the superior skill of Zaman, Maqsood put up an excellent performance giving the crowd the opportunity to watch long and exciting rallies illustrating the techniques and skill of world championship squash. Reaching seemingly impossible points in the first set and managed to maintain the score at 4-6 for 8 services before dropping 3 successive points and losing the first set 9-4.

Zaman had the upper-hand throughout the second set although play was still hard and fast. The fierce competition between the players resulted in the breakage of Zaman's racket and an instruction from the referee that Zaman clear the way for his opponent following several "stroke" and "let" balls.

After a good start by Maqsood Ahmed, with fierce play at the sixth point, he again lost several points in succession to lose the second set 9-2.

By the third set, the outcome was inevitable. Zaman took a commanding lead, maintained it easily and won the final set 9-1 to win the individual tournament. Following the match Zaman was presented with a gift from His Highness Crown Prince Hassan by Prince Rafiq.

The team championships also started Saturday with Jordan playing well and beating the Sri Lankan team 3-0. Jordan's Yousef Soufwan beat Ramzie of Sri Lanka 4-2, 9-6, 4-1. Hamid Saed of Jordan defeated Gunge of Sri Lanka 9-0, 4-1, 1-9, 9-0 and Jordan's Nidal Quart also won his match with a 4-7, 4-2, 7-4, 4-3.

The manager of the Jordanian team, Mr. Ibrahim Hadid, told the Jordan Times that he was very pleased with the performance of the Jordanian team in the championships. He said that they have a good chance of being pla-

ced 2nd or 3rd in the team events and thereby proving themselves on the international squash circuit. Mr. Hadid said that considering Jordan is a relative newcomer to squash, the team is playing well and was encouraged to participate in the championship despite their initial nervousness.

Mr. Hadid added that Jordan's participation in the tournament has given them an excellent incentive to further improve their standard in the next few years.

Also in the team events on Saturday Pakistan beat all their Bahraini opponents 3-0. World Champion Jahangir Khan played in the team event and Pakistan are favourites to win the team championship.

The team matches for today (Sunday) are Sri Lanka v Malaysia at 4.30 a.m., Singapore v Pakistan at 4.30 p.m., Sri Lanka v India at 4.30 p.m. and Jordan v Bahrain at 6.30 p.m. All matches will be held at the Sports City.

Australia hits 209 for 8 in world cricket

MELBOURNE (R) — Pakistan leg-spinner Abdul Qadir took five wickets, as he bemused Australia's batsmen in a World Series Cricket Cup match Saturday.

Qadir took two wickets in two balls at one stage as his flight and spin helped check a fast start by Australia, whose innings closed at 209 for eight wickets in the 51-over match.

His first victim was opener Kepler Wessels, who was caught by Imran Khan for 86 after giving Australia a brisk start in partnership with Greg Ritchie.

Qadir took his five wickets for 53 runs off 10 overs, snaring David Hookes (37) and Rodney Hogg (10) in successive balls to make the total 178 for eight.

He was denied the hat-trick when John Maguire, deliberately

United keeps up the pressure on Liverpool

LONDON (R) — Manchester United clung tenaciously to Liverpool's shirt-tails with a fighting 3-2 home win over Southampton Saturday to keep the English Soccer Championship race wide open.

Having watched Liverpool extend their lead at the top to five points with a 3-1 win at Aston Villa Friday night, United knew they could not afford to slip up against a Southampton side which arrived at Old Trafford unbeaten in their last eight games.

And Southampton made United fight all the way in a torrid and controversial first division encounter which was eventually decided by Arnold Muhren's 60th minute winner.

The result took United onto the 46-point mark, two behind Liverpool and three ahead of third-placed West Ham, who beat visiting West Bromwich 1-0.

Southampton, with the best defensive record in the first division, showed they also knew a thing or two about attack when they took the lead through Steve Moran in the third minute.

The United defence stood back to admire Mark Dennis' cross from the right and Moran moved in smartly to glance a beautiful header past goalkeeper Gary Bailey.

It took United 15 minutes to recover from the shock and they equalised in their first concerted attack when Ray Wilkins and Muhren set up an opening for England captain Bryan Robson, who swept the ball high into the

net from the edge of the box.

Muhren, a constant menace to Southampton in midfield, was the architect again in the 30th minute when Frank Stapleton scored his first goal in 10 games by heading home the Dutchman's pinpoint cross from the left.

Six minutes later Southampton equalised in controversial circumstances when Moran's thunderous left-footer rebounded off the net stanchion and the referee had to consult a linesman before awarding the goal.

The United players appeared to accept the decision but assistant manager Mick Brown became involved in a furious exchange of words with the Southampton bench before Ron Atkinson stepped in to defuse the situation.

Referee Alan Seville also cautioned six players but that was due more to the icy surface than any intended malice.

Another Dutchman, Muhren's former Ipswich team-mate Frans Thijssen, kept Brian Clough's new-look Nottingham Forest in the hunt when he put his team on the road to a 3-0 home win over Norwich by opening the scoring after five minutes.

Forest then wrapped up a comfortable victory with further goals from Steve Hodge and Viv Anderson in the 16th and 29th minutes to remain one point behind West Ham in fourth place.

With Notts County, Stoke and Wolverhampton already hot favourites for the big drop into division two next season, the battle

for the three promotion places took another twist when Chelsea beat Sheffield Wednesday 3-2 in a top-of-the-table clash at Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea looked to be heading for a comfortable victory when they led 3-0 with nine minutes remaining before Wednesday, who meet Liverpool in a League Cup quarter-final replay next week, staged a late recovery in a thrilling climax.

The Londoners' victory took them above Wednesday on goal difference with Manchester City, despite losing 2-1 at Blackburn, retaining third place.

Glasgow Rangers beat both the Scottish winter and visiting St. Johnstone to continue their recent revival in the Premier League.

Ibrox Stadium's underground heating system allowed Rangers to stage the only Premier League game of the day and they celebrated with a 2-0 win, Sandy Clarke and Robert Russell scoring in the first-half.

After an atrocious start to the season, which resulted in the resignation of manager John Greig, Rangers are now well placed to clinch a UEFA Cup spot next season under new boss Jock Wallace.

Saturday's win left them in fourth place, though out of the championship running.

European Cup-Winners' Cup holders Aberdeen are well out in front with 33 points, four ahead of Glasgow Celtic and seven in front of defending champions Dundee United.

Klammer leads Austrian downhill sweep

KITZBUHEL, Austria (R) — Franz Klammer led an Austrian sweep of the top places in the world's toughest downhill race, the 'Streif' on Hahnekkamm, here Saturday.

It was his fourth victory on this piste in a 10-year career in World Cup racing and at 30 he became the second oldest competitor to win the Hahnekkamm. His compatriot Karl Schranz won here in 1972 at the age of 33.

Klammer sped down the awesome 3,500 metres course with a drop of 860 metres in two minutes 02.82 seconds ahead of Erwin

Resch, who clocked 2:03.39, and Anton Steiner, third in 2:03.43.

It was a brilliant comeback for Klammer, last year's World Cup downhill champion, who has had a disappointing season so far this year with only one second place to his credit — in Laax, Switzerland, earlier this month.

"This is a great day for me," said a smiling Klammer. "I was depressed with my poor running this season, but this morning I had the feeling I could make it."

Klammer came down the course in the same aggressive style that has made him a legend and earned

him the nickname of the 'Klammer Express'.

In Verbier, Switzerland Maria Walliser of Switzerland won a women's World Ski Cup downhill in difficult conditions which caused upsets among other specialists here on Saturday.

Walliser's second World Cup win of the season after victory in Val d'Isere last month came in one minute 39.84 seconds, 0.15 seconds ahead of American Holly Beth Flanders. Olga Charvatova of Czechoslovakia was third in 1:40.76.

Forty centimetres of snow fell on the Medran slope here over the last two days and visibility was so bad Friday the race was postponed until Saturday. The snow was still especially thick up towards the start.

Kratochvilova, Gross honoured

DORTMUND, West Germany (R) — West German swimmer Michael Gross and Czechoslovak athlete Jarmila Kratochvilova were named European Sportsman and Sportswoman of 1983 by European sports journalists Saturday.

Gross, 19, won four gold medals and was involved in three world records at the European Swimming Championship in Rome last August.

Kratochvilova won the 400 and 800 metres titles at the first World Athletics Championships in Helsinki the same month. She also set world records at both distances during the year.

Superbowl fever takes hold across United States

TAMPA, Florida (R) — For approximately three and a half hours on Sunday, more than 100 million Americans will stop what they are doing to watch the Washington Redskins and Los Angeles Raiders battle it out for the National Football League (NFL) Championship.

Though the rest of the world will take little more than a passing interest, gridiron football's Superbowl is the biggest single sporting event in the U.S. and its unique magic never fails to grip the entire nation.

Here in Tampa, where the game will take place for the first time, thousands of fans from the two cities have converged to watch the spectacle.

All over the city there are reminders that "Super Sunday" is near. The streets are adorned with Superbowl banners, souvenirs are sold everywhere and sports fans circulate throughout Tampa wearing Redskin or Raider hats.

The social life of the city has also been altered. Restaurants and bars have been jammed all week, and a series of elegant parties have been scheduled. One of the week's highlights is a concert by Frank Sinatra on Sunday.

For American football fans it is a dream match between two of the league's most colourful outfits.

Washington, the reigning champions who are attempting to become only the fourth team to retain the trophy, epitomise the American work ethic.

Their key offensive weapon is the plodding, powerful, almost machine-like John Riggins. What the 34-year-old running back lacks in speed and finesse, he more than makes up in strength.

Last year, when the Redskins beat Miami 27-17 in Superbowl XVII, Riggins was voted Man of the Match.

The Raiders on the other hand, with their silver and black uniforms, are perennially cast as the league's most villainous team. At one time, while they were based in Oakland, the Raiders had a defensive player (Jack Tatum, nicknamed 'the Assassin'). And a rival coach once accused the team of having "a criminal element."

Their rebellious nature is due in part to owner Al Davis, a former Raider coach, who fought league officials in a three-year federal court battle in order to move the team from Oakland to Los Angeles.

"A menagerie of misfits," is how Raiders' Todd Christensen describes his team, which includes a number of players who have been released by rival outfits and given a second chance by the Raiders.

The colourful nature of the two teams has led to a war of words between the squads.

Raiders' burly defensive star Lyle Alzado, a player with a reputation for rough play, has threatened to "tear Riggins' head off". That merely prompted Riggins to reply: "I hope he will at least be gentleman enough to hand it back to me."

Washington, who beat Los Angeles 37-35 during the regular season, are slight favourites, although President Reagan, an avid football fan, skirted the issue when asked for a prediction.

"Since both teams playing are from my current hometowns, and since none of the democrats who are interested in this job have declared their preference, I see no reason to be recklessly courageous. May the best team win," he said.

Before taking up temporary residency in Washington three years ago, Reagan lived in Los Angeles.

Brazilian soccer failing to pull in the crowds

By Sergio Leitao
Reuters

RIO DE JANEIRO — Brazilian football league attendance has dropped by a third in 15 years as fans fail to find the old magic in the current crop of players, clubs report.

Players, sportswriters and the remaining diehard fans increasingly lament that the sparkle has gone out of what used to be the most feverishly followed sport in Brazil.

Most agree that Brazilian football lost much of its charisma along with its older stars.

The triumphs of such players as Pele, Garrincha, Nilton Santos, Zito, Clodoaldo, Gerson, Rivellino, Tostao and Carlos Alberto are fading memories against which today's performances are sadly compared.

These were the heroes who projected Brazil to World Cup triumph in 1958, 1962 and 1970. Disappointed fans say the present crop of players are pale imitations.

Sportswriters have come up with a host of reasons for falling gates. They quote fans as saying they lost interest when top stars like Falcão, Zico and Cerezo were sold to Italian clubs.

Another reason given is the inflation-racked economy, which has made football an unaffordable luxury for some fans. A related fear is that the little money they do have might be stolen in the crush of the stands.

Crowd violence is also cited, and then there is television. Why trek to the game when you can sit in comfort at home with a beer and get a better view?

Further erosion of football support has been blamed on the growing popularity of other sports such as volleyball, which is played on beaches and in parks with an enthusiasm that transcends age and gender. Company teams pull huge crowds and are regularly televised.

"I've quit going to the Maracana (Rio's famous stadium) ever since Zico was sold to Italy's Udinese," said 12-year-old former fan Nelson Batista. "Without him what's the point of watching the game?"

Not everyone shares his gloom. Former national squad coach Joao Saldanha says Brazilian football is as entertaining as ever.

"The recent encounter between Gremio and Hamburg in the World Cup final in Tokyo was the best evidence for my optimism," he said.

"We checked out those who jump to hasty conclusions that

Lotus continues to set best Formula One times

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — British driver Nigel Mansell, in a Lotus, set the fastest time on the fifth day of Formula One tests at the Jacarepagua track here Friday.

His best lap of one minute 30.34 seconds was the fastest this week and maintained the Lotus team's position as the quickest on every test day.

Mansell beat the previous best by team-mate Elio de Angelis of Italy who rounded the 3.126-mile (5.031-km) circuit in one minute 30.65 seconds on his last day of testing on Wednesday.

Mansell has also set Thursday's best time of one minute 31.70 seconds.

Italian Michele Alboreto was second-fastest Friday with one minute 30.72 Alboreto, driving a Ferrari, has clocked the second-best time on each of the last four days.

Britain's Derek Warwick put up Friday's third best time of one minute 31.70 seconds in a Ferrari.

The trials which end Saturday are officially to try out tyres for the forthcoming Grand Prix season which opens here on March 25.

REQUIRED

Khashram Building Materials Company is seeking the following:

- Sales Representatives
- Secretary

Candidates please contact tel: 36766 between 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

FOR SALE

BMW 320, 1979 model colour green metallic 6 cylinder with all accessories.

Call Fouad tel: 44321

INVITATION

Rafia Industrial Co. Ltd. invite all concerned manufacturers to quote for the construction of a complete plant for the following:

Type: Circular woven polypropylene sacks.

Size: 60 x 100 cm. (net) 10 x 10 per inch.

Capacity: 7,000,000 (seven million) sacks per year

All concerned manufacturers are invited to contact Rafia Industrial Co. Ltd. Tel: 75620, P.O. Box 1879, Tlx. 22268 NICE JO Amman, Jordan

Embassy of the United States of America

Notice to all American citizens living in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

American citizens residing in Jordan are requested to visit the American Embassy Consular Section in order to register if they have not done so in the past. Previously registered citizens should telephone or contact the American Embassy Consulate to inform it of their continued presence in the country and any change in telephone, address or employment.

The American Embassy is located in Jabal Amman between the Second and Third Circles, directly across from the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel. The phone number is 44371. P.O. Box 354.

The Consular Section is open to public 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday.

DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Consisting of three bedrooms, salon, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, two bathrooms, electric lift, separate central heating and telephone.

Location: Jabal Amman Fifth Circle, Opposite Abdoun Supermarket

VACANCY

A Japanese construction company operating in Amman, is seeking an accountant. Candidates must have more than two years experience with foreign companies. English language is essential.

Contact tel: 667537 between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED

For a Jordanian family, with a good knowledge of English. Accommodation available.

Please contact Elias Samaan, Phone No: 663347, Amman.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REQUIRED

Duhni Contracting and Trading Co. requires an executive secretary with 3 years experience. Good command of English is essential.

Interested candidate kindly call 669791, 676872 for appointment

JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO. LTD. INVITATION TO TENDER No. 2F/84

JPMC announces the invitation to tender No. 2F/84 for Electric detonators

The tender documents are available at JPMC General Offices in Amman - Supply Department. Application for documents should be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of JD. 20 (Twenty Jordanian Dinars). The closing date for submission tender is 12.00 hours local time Monday 20th February, 1984.

WASEF AZAR
MANAGING DIRECTOR

HOLIDAY INN AQABA

COLD, TIRED, NEED REST:

Holiday Inn Aqaba Can Make It Better For You.

Special Offer At 20 Degrees And More,

J-D 11.5 On Half Board Per Person In A Double Room.

J-D 4.5 Per Child Below 12 (H/B) In The Same Room.

HOLIDAY INN AQABA. A BETTER PLACE TO BE.

These rates are applicable during January, February and March.

Dutch economy recovers

AMSTERDAM (R) — New statistics have underlined an improvement in the Dutch economy, although the Netherlands is still struggling with one of the highest unemployment rates in the industrialized world, economists said Friday.

The Netherlands, highly dependent on world trade, announced a November trade surplus of 1.9 billion guilders (\$600 million) Thursday after record exports that month.

Earlier, the finance ministry said the budget deficit, which the government is trying to reduce as part of its strategy for economic recovery, was significantly less in 1983 than had been expected.

This followed higher than forecast consumption, which is boosting industry, and below budget spending by ministries.

Such favourable economic signs

have led banks to revise upwards their forecast for real growth this year, with some putting it as high as 2 per cent, compared with an official view of zero to 1 per cent.

The optimism has spilled over to the stock exchange, where share indices have repeatedly hit record highs in recent weeks.

Economists and officials caution, however, that the better trends in the economy should not deflect the government from its savings plans, possibly the most ruthless in any Western country.

The cabinet is trying to save 12 billion guilders (\$3.8 billion) in 1984, mainly through cuts in social security and public sector salaries, in order to lower the record budget deficit.

Cutting the deficit to divert funds to investment is seen as crucial for economic recovery.

The new finance ministry figures show the total 1983 deficit was 11.6 per cent of national income, or 38.6 billion guilders (\$12.4 billion).

This was up from 10.0 per cent in 1982, but well below a forecast of 12.4 per cent only last September.

Some of the factors which led to the lower deficit, particularly higher consumption which boosted tax receipts, should run on in 1984 and bring down the deficit this year.

With trade and exports growing strongly, investment is picking up and industrial production is running more than 5 per cent above year-ago figures.

Economists believe that it may be some time before this has an impact on unemployment, now around 18 per cent of the work force.

U.S. economy grows 3.3 per cent in 1983

WASHINGTON (A.P.) — Shaking off the worst recession since World War II, the economy of the United States grew by 3.3 per cent last year, the government reported Friday.

Many analysts predicted an even better showing for 1984, but some said the "hemorrhage" of trade deficits could spell trouble.

The growth in 1983, as measured by the inflation-adjusted Gross National Product, was the best of any year since the 5.8 per cent rise in 1978. Last year's advance followed a decline of 1.4 per cent in 1982 — the worst drop since 1946 — and a 2.6 per cent increase in 1981.

U.S. Economic growth in 1983 was much better than the administration of President Ronald Reagan and most private economists had forecast a year ago. It was spurred by a burst of consumer spending and business investments aimed at rebuilding inventories sharply depleted during the recession of the two previous years.

For the final three months of 1983, the Commerce Department said the real or inflation-adjusted GNP — the retail value of all

goods and services produced by the economy — grew at an annual rate of 4.5 per cent.

That was a slower pace than the big increases of 9.7 per cent in the second quarter and 7.6 per cent in the third. But both the administration and private analysts said the fourth-quarter slowdown was normal for this stage of the recovery and would guard against overheating that might trigger a new round of inflation.

"We have had a strong recovery," said Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige. "It is normal in almost every sense except the trade deficits."

Mr. Baldrige said those deficits, which are expected to reach a record \$70 billion in 1983, will be even worse this year, at an estimated \$90 billion.

Mr. Baldrige acknowledged the negative effect on the trade balance of high U.S. interest rates and the strength of the dollar. He said the best way to restrain int-

crest rates is to reduce government budget deficits, but he held out no hope that Congress would approve what he called a "proper mix" of spending cuts and tax increases to achieve that result in an election year.

Private economists expressed alarm at the worsening trade picture.

"What we see is a healthy domestic economy that is being dragged down by the disastrous impact of the international trade of deficits," said Jerry Jasinski, executive vice president of the National Association of Manufacturers.

"If the U.S. economy continues to hemorrhage in the trade area, economic growth in 1984 could be cut as much as 1 percentage point."

Nonetheless, Mr. Jasinski said he still projected a 4 per cent real GNP increase in 1984, compared with the 3.3 per cent gain last year.

Mr. Baldrige predicted a rise of 4.5 per cent this year and 5 per cent in 1985. The Chamber of Commerce of the United States was even more optimistic, forecasting 5.7 per cent economic growth in 1984, "provided there is neither a major tax increase nor an overly restrictive monetary policy."

General Motors may buy Jaguar, newspaper says

LONDON (R) — American motor giant General Motors (GM) wants to buy the Jaguar luxury car division from state-owned British Leyland (BL), the Daily Mail newspaper said Saturday.

The newspaper said GM would not confirm or deny its interest in the sleek prestige car now selling well in the U.S. and elsewhere. It reported that the American firm

sought Jaguar as a showroom "pearl" to draw customers. The fortunes of Jaguar, scheduled to be sold back into private ownership this year, have zoomed. It announced record sales for last year of £550 million.

The Daily Mail quoted a BL spokesman as saying: "There is a strong feeling that Jaguar should remain British. But this is really up to the government."

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JAN. 22, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime is very good for you to study new outlets by which to gain the specific plan of action and thought under which you wish to live in the future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A good day to show gratitude to those who have done you favors and gain their added good will. Keep cheerful.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have good ideas that should be discussed with others who can assist you to make them work successfully.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Plan how to get the situation improved at home and tonight don't go overboard in spending for pleasure.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Communicate with others and garner the information you need in order to get your daily work efficiently.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Plan those practical affairs you want to handle that can bring you added prosperity and tonight avoid making calls that quarrelsome chums.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) A fine day for thinking about yourself and your fondest aims and how to gain them. Improve your state of health.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Concentrating upon some new philosophy of life is wise during the daytime. Tonight get your wardrobe in fine order.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you do something special for a good friend, you gain much good will for the future. Show your appreciation of good things.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A good day to tune up your health and system so that you can see bigwigs during the coming week and make headway.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good day for spiritual studies that can help you immensely in the future. Steer clear of irate co-workers.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Your hunches are not very good today. Rely only upon your mature judgment. Steer clear of suspicious newcomers.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Take care you do not ink your allies in any way now, otherwise, there is trouble. Tonight, spend time on finances.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she can comprehend how to handle others so that there will be greater harmony among them and can be very active throughout the lifetime. The field of business will be best for your progeny, so educate along those lines.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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Firms write off millions of dollars on dry oil well

LONDON (R) — British Petroleum and its United States subsidiary Sohio Friday announced they were writing off hundreds of millions of dollars in what may prove to be the oil industry's worst failure.

They invested the money in exploring for oil far inside the Arctic Circle off Alaska but disclosed last month that, instead of finding a major source of oil, their well flowed only water.

Sohio (Standard Oil of Ohio) said in Cleveland it was writing off about \$310 million before tax, part of which had been spent creating a man-made gravel island in the Beaufort Sea to serve as a base for drilling.

After tax its loss comes down to \$163 million.

In London, B.P. said it was writing off about £100 million (\$140 million) after tax.

Some £40 million (\$56 million)

of this represented the amount it was writing off from its 7 per cent direct interest in the Mukluk lease, while the rest reflected its 53 per cent holding in Sohio.

Its shares seemed to weather the loss well, trading on the London stock exchange at £4.26 (\$5.96), 5 pence (7 cents) up on the day.

Sohio, which along with B.P. and several other oil companies paid \$1.7 billion for Mukluk licenses, says it will now evaluate data from the failed well and decide whether to continue drilling in other areas.

Oil industry analysts said in December the failure to find oil in the main area of drilling interest made it much less likely that further wells would be commercially viable.

Some estimates had said the prospect could contain several bil-

lion barrels of oil, which would have made it the largest exploration area in the United States.

But the Sohio oil workers, who drilled the well in Arctic winter darkness and temperatures down to minus 40°C found nothing.

Industry sources have a percentage breakdown of oil company interest in the Mukluk well as Sohio 31.42, Mobil 15.75, Shell 14, Texaco 10.7, Diamond Shamrock 10.42, B.P. 7.04, Placid Oil 4.22, Amerada Hess 2.81, Gulf 1.79, Koch Industries 1.5, Elf-Aquitaine 0.31.

Diamond Shamrock has said it also expects to write-off its investment, but not by how much.

B.P. said its write-off did not include its share of building Mukluk island because this had been borne by Gulf Oil and Elf-Aquitaine as part of an agreement allowing them to take an interest in certain B.P. leases.

Netherlands to continue gas exports in 1990s

AMSTERDAM (R) — The Netherlands, the world's third largest natural gas producer, has reversed an earlier decision to cease gas exports in the 1990s, government sources said Friday.

Belgium, France, West Germany and Italy are keen to import more Dutch gas when their contracts expire in the next decade, the sources said. A spokesman for Gasunie, the state-controlled gas company, added they were also exploring the possibility of building a gas pipeline to Britain, which does not at present import Dutch gas.

The sources said the countries wanted to go on buying from the Netherlands since Dutch supplies were more assured, politically and practically, than those from the Soviet Union or Algeria.

The original decision to cease exports was aimed at preserving supplies for home use. But government forecasts of the need to boost state revenue in the 1990s plus an upward estimate of the size of reserves had contributed to the change of plan, officials said.

The Netherlands exported 35 billion cubic metres of gas in 1983. Total gas sales at home and abroad brought the state about 18.3 billion guilders (\$5.81 billion).

NEWS IN BRIEF

MEA may go bankrupt

BEIRUT — Lebanon's national flag airline, whose pilots have gained a reputation for getting passengers to Beirut in all but the most perilous of times, is on the verge of bankruptcy after a year of devastating losses. Mr. Salim Salameh, the 61-year-old chairman and president of the line, Middle East Airlines, says the only people flying to Lebanon these days are those who have no choice. And for nearly two months last year even those passengers — mainly Lebanese, but also some foreign journalists and a handful of foreign businessmen — were unable to fly because the war had forced the government to close the airport here. — New York Times

U.K. inflation rate rises to 5.3%

LONDON (R) — The rate of inflation in Britain rose by half a percentage point in December to 5.3 per cent, its highest level since last February, the government said Friday. The rise from 4.8 per cent in November was in line with official forecasts. The Department of Employment said prices actually rose more slowly in December than in the 4 previous months, and the rise in the annual rate of inflation reflected the influence of a freak price movement a year previously.

Kuwaiti exports to Arab states fall

KUWAIT (OPECNA) — Kuwaiti exports to Arab countries fell from \$335.85 million in 1982 to \$199.8 million last year — a drop of 40.5 per cent. Trade statistics show the bulk of Kuwaiti exports went to Gulf Cooperation Council states, accounting for 71.8 per cent of overall trade. Saudi Arabia was Kuwait's principal trading partner last year, with imports from the kingdom reaching 36.1 million — an increase of 11.5 per cent over 1982. Exports included prefabricated houses, car chassis and clothing. Kuwait's exports to Iraq in 1983 fell by 73.3 per cent from the previous year, reaching \$54.1 million. Exports to Iraq peaked in 1981 when goods worth \$122.68 million were sold.

Saudi-U.S. trade drops

RIYADH (Agencies) — The value of Saudi-U.S. trade, which stood at \$21.72 billion in 1981, dropped to \$9.5 billion in the first 10 months of last year.

An American embassy official here said U.S. imports, worth \$14.39 billion in 1981, went down to \$7.44 billion in 1982 and to only \$2.71 billion between January and October last year.

Commercial Counsellor Robert Beckman was quoted as saying that U.S. exports to the kingdom increased from 7.33 billion in

1981 to \$9.03 billion in 1982, and stood at \$6.79 billion in the first 10 months of 1983. He said nearly 650 American companies were currently working in Saudi Arabia and at the end of 1982 the U.S. was involved in 182 joint ventures.

Meanwhile, according to a report from Kuwait, Soviet foreign ministry official Mr. Robert Klekovski has announced a sevenfold increase in Saudi-Soviet trade over the last 8 years. The value of Soviet exports to the kingdom,

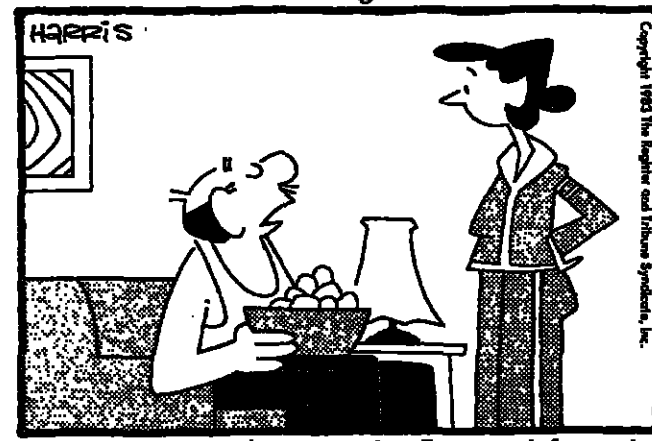
which totalled \$4.4 million in 1975, are expected to reach more than \$32 million this year.

On the other hand, Saudi Arabia remains the top non-European market after the U.S. for West German exports, despite its projected budget deficit and falling oil revenues, Deutsche Bank managing board member Mr. Werner Blessing said. The more middle-sized German firms were now established in the Saudi market, as well as the major companies which broke into it 10 years ago. He said 300 firms had representatives in Saudi Arabia, of which 60 were joint Saudi-German projects.

German exports to Saudi Arabia were expected to stabilise around current levels after several years of extraordinary growth, he said.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

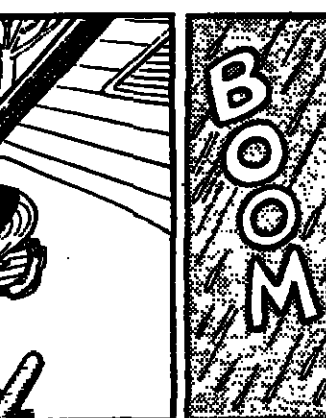
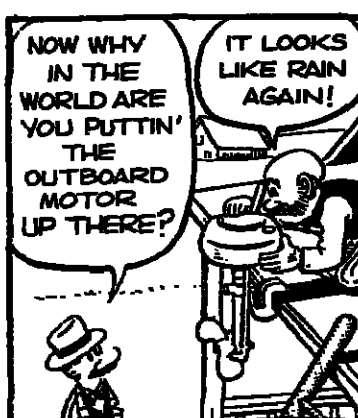


"Stop nagging me about exercise. For your information, opening a bag of chips involves more than 25 different muscles!"

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TUBOA

NIDEK

DOBOLY

HINEAL

WHAT'S WRONG WITH EATING THIS LITTLE OL' APPLE?



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: "O, I, D, U, N, N, O"

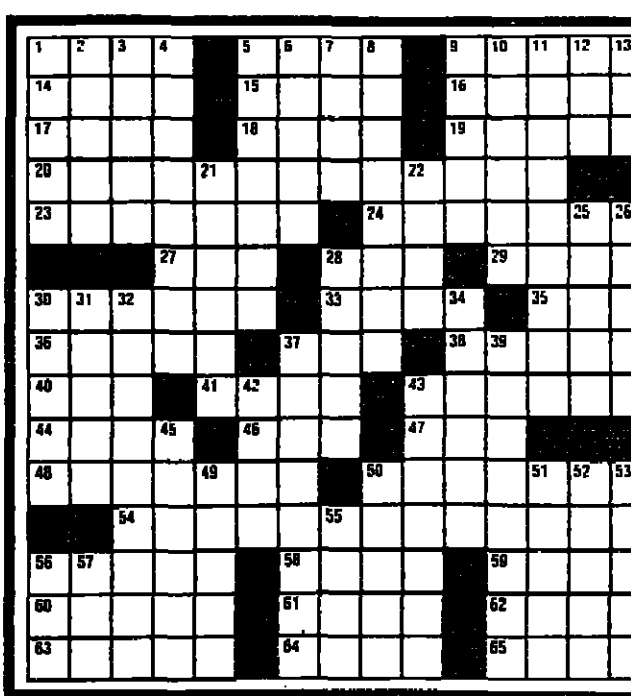
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ANKLE EMPTY BEHAVE DEAFEN
Answer: The patients didn't like that nurse because she was always trying to do this — NEEDLE THEM

THE Daily Crossword

by Fran Ragus

ACROSS	27 Sheep	48 Texas	12 Science
1 Bauble	28 Droop	headgear	work area
5 Trudge	29 Name in	50 Exercises	13 Give the
9 Furniture	30 Annoy	51 Unprede-	table
14 Sailor's	33 — boy!	56 Extant	22 Modern
patron	35 Haul	58 Lopez	fasteners
saint	36 Table	theme song	25 French
15 Vein	37 spreads	59 Fatigue	river
16 Assortment	38 Before	60 Enjoy a	26 Salamanders
17 Ladd of	39 English	party	28 Lorelei,
movies	40 Thus	61 Simple	for one
18 Certain	41 Docile	62 Other	30 Mails
tennis	43 Cubic	63 Pinnacle	31 George or
serves	45 meters	64 Heating	Thomas
19 Queen of	46 Stannum	apparatus	32 Mysterious
Thebes	47 Weight of	65 Recondite	34 Bring into
20 Manhater	a pendulum		harmony
23 Stanzas			37 Cardinal
24 Desk			title
			39 Felt con-
			trition
			42 Over
			43 Mouth-like
			openings
			45 Alien and
			Martin
			49 Silver
			fish
			50 Eagle's
			weapon
			51 Useful
			52 Analyze a
			sentence
			53 Snooze
			55 Origin
			56 Bow
			57 Sea god



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Reagan believes Moscow will return to missile talks

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has said he believes Moscow will return to nuclear missile reduction talks even though Western officials consider any thaw in U.S.-Soviet relations may have to start with less glamorous issues.

They said the best prospect was for a resumption of talks in Vienna in March on East-West troop reductions in Europe.

U.S. officials added Friday night that Washington and Moscow might also resume efforts to reach agreements on nuclear missile testing and possibly on cultural and consular exchanges.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said he got "absolutely no movement" on resuming the U.S.-Soviet missile talks from Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko during their five-hour

meeting in Stockholm on Wednesday.

In fact, Mr. Shultz said, he received no assurance that Mr. Gromyko was willing to begin a thaw in U.S.-Soviet ties on any issue. "The future will tell on that," he said.

In a statement later, Mr. Reagan said Mr. Shultz and Mr. Gromyko had a full and serious exchange on global issues.

"Of course, they did not resolve our differences," he said. "But the important thing is that despite these differences, we are deter-

mined to continue our efforts to make Europe and the world a safer and more secure place in which all of us may live in peace and dignity."

Speaking at a ceremony Friday to mark the third anniversary of his inauguration as president, Mr. Reagan said: "Sooner or later the Soviets will realise that equitable and verifiable arms reductions are in their interest. ... We'll be at the table waiting for them, ready to go on negotiating from strength and in good faith," he said.

But Mr. Shultz said Mr. Gromyko was adamant that the Soviet Union would not return to the talks until NATO was prepared to move out of Europe newly-deployed U.S. Pershing-2 and cruise missiles.

"We made no headway on that subject ... there was absolutely no movement," Mr. Shultz told reporters.

Moscow walked out of the Geneva talks on limiting medium-range missiles in Europe in November after NATO began deploying the missiles in the absence of an agreement with the Soviet Union.

The Kremlin refused to set dates for resuming separate talks on reducing strategic missiles and on cutting East-West troop strengths in the European theatre.

Mr. Shultz suggested Moscow might be willing to return to the troop reduction negotiations. Western diplomats in Stockholm attending the conference on disarmament in Europe said they could resume within two months.

The diplomats said that Warsaw Pact countries had suggested resuming the so-called Mutual Balanced Force Reduction (MBFR) talks in Vienna in mid-March.

That alone would mark a small thaw in U.S.-Soviet relations.

U.S. denies holding talks with Angola, S. Africa

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States denied Saturday it was holding talks with South Africa and Angola in the Cape Verde Islands on the situation in southern Africa.

The denial followed a report by the Portuguese News Agency ANOP that a high U.S. State Department official was in Sao Vicente Island, off the west coast of Africa, for secret talks with officials from Angola and South Africa.

The report sparked speculation that Pretoria might be trying to break the deadlock over independence in Namibia (South West Africa).

State Department spokesman Alan Romberg said Washington remained in contact with all parties, including both Angola and South Africa, "but there are no tripartite talks going on involving the United States, South Africa and Angola."

But he said Frank Wisner, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs had flown to Lisbon for talks on Monday. A Portuguese Foreign Ministry spokesman said Mr. Wisner would probably see Foreign Minister Jaime Gama.

Portugal has close ties with its former colony Angola, where South Africa last month conducted a big military operation, ostensibly in search of guerrillas fighting for the independence of Namibia.

Both Angola and South Africa recently offered a 30-day truce but each government set conditions unacceptable to the other. Cape Verde, like Angola a former Portuguese colony, has twice in the past served as the venue for talks between South Africa and Angola.

Zhao holds talks with Canadian trade officials

TORONTO, Canada (A.P.) — Winding up a North American tour, premier Zhao Ziyang of China met privately on Friday with members of the Ontario Provincial Cabinet before taking a sidetrip to Niagara Falls.

"They have quite an emphasis on technological growth over the next 10 to 15 years," Provincial Industry and Trade Minister Frank Miller told reporters after he and three colleagues met with Mr. Zhao.

Mr. Miller said China has the potential of being a billion-dollar market for Ontario businesses. "We feel we have confidence in Canada to bring them some of the technology transfer they need."

Mr. Zhao met with the Ontario officials for about an hour in the posh Royal York Hotel before a private lunch.

Outside the downtown hotel, a tiny band of protesters silently stood in single file, bearing placards demanding China free Tibet.

Mr. Zhao later travelled to Niagara Falls to view the natural wonder between the United States and Canada. A Chinese woman

living in Canada broke through a mob of reporters and photographers to thank the premier for visiting Canada.

The woman, smiling broadly, commented on the bitterly cold weather, speaking English to the Canadian officials travelling with the premier and Chinese to Mr. Zhao.

Mr. Zhao, wearing a fur hat, ignored the crowd as he stood at a chest-high railing from which about 20 centimetres (8 inches) of ice had been cleared away to create a viewing space.

David Smith, Canada's minister of state for small business, accompanied Zhao on his 10-minute tour of the Falls, answering questions through an interpreter.

Mr. Zhao remarked that the Falls were impressive and compared them with Falls in northeastern China and said he found the weather less cold than he had expected, Mr. Smith said.

After the brief visit, a smiling Mr. Zhao was whisked to a waiting limousine to return to Toronto to attend a reception for members of Toronto's Chinese Community and a private dinner at Mr. Smith's home.

Salvadoran rebels release 14 detained journalists

SAN SALVADOR (A.P.) — Fourteen foreign journalists reported Friday that they were detained by guerrillas, and had been released.

Members of the foreign press corps in El Salvador said they had tried to keep word of the detention from becoming public until the journalists were freed.

Three of the journalists had been held by guerrillas since Tuesday.

Life expectancy increases in U.S.

WASHINGTON (R) — Life expectancy reached an average 74.5 years in the United States in 1982, with women having an eight-year edge on men, according to statistics released by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The figures, released this week, showed women had a life expectancy of 78.2 years, compared to 70.8 for males. Ten years earlier, average life expectancy was 71.1 years.

Former actor in Tarzan movies dies

ACAPULCO, Mexico (A.P.) — Johnny Weissmuller, the five-time Olympic swimming champion who thrilled millions as Tarzan of the jungle, died at his home, a funeral home spokesman said Saturday. He was 79. Weissmuller, who had been ill since 1977, died at his home Friday night. Luis Flores, the Gomez Funeral Home said, Mr. Flores said that Weissmuller's wife had not yet completed funeral arrangements but that he probably would be buried Sunday at an Acapulco cemetery.

Damage sought for flying phobia

NEWARK (R) — An accountant who was aboard a World Airways plane that crashed into Boston Harbour two years ago is claiming \$750,000 damages for his subsequent fear of flying. John Mortenson, 26, said air travel was necessary to his job and his career had been jeopardised because he cannot now fly. Mr. Mortenson was one of 198 passengers on the World Airways DC-10 that skidded off the runway after landing at Boston's Logan International Airport in January, 1982. Two passengers were never found.

Moscow reprimands 5 ministers

MOSCOW (R) — The Communist Party Politburo has reprimanded five industrial ministers over air pollution in the West Siberian city of Kemerovo. Soviet Television reported. They were warned for "indiscipline shown in implementing nature protection measures by enterprises under their control," the report said. It gave no details of the pollution. It was the latest of several Soviet media reports in recent months of pollution disasters.

Airline fined for sex discrimination

MORLAIX, France (R) — A court has awarded a man in this Western French town 4,500 Francs (about \$600) in damages after an airline rejected him for a job as an air hostess on the grounds he was not a woman. Judicial sources said Saturday the airline Britair had been found guilty of sex discrimination in refusing to employ the man after it had advertised for cabin crew in 1982.

'Nude paintings are not obscene'

PEKING (R) — A newspaper that is the mouthpiece of Chinese intellectuals spoke out for nude models and the artists who paint them, at a time when the Communist Party is clamping down on "moral pollution." "Do not confuse the painting of nude models with obscenity," the Guangming Daily pronounced on its front page. It said artists who aimed for realism had to make a scientific study of human anatomy and movements. "There are some shameless characters who put nude artworks and life classes to other uses, or behave improperly during the painting of nude models," the paper conceded.

Rocket grenade explodes at Singapore aerospace show

SINGAPORE (R) — A rocket grenade exploded at an International Aerospace Exhibition at Singapore's Changi Airport Saturday, killing one person and injuring eight others, police said.

It went off during a demonstration at a Singapore military booth where an array of sophisticated weapons, including live ammunition, was on display.

The explosion tore a big hole in a wall and shattered glass panels. Police evicted the area but the exhibition, the biggest civilian and military aerospace show ever held in Asia, went on uninterrupted.

Police said no one had been detained but a thorough investigation would be held into the accident.

The grenade exploded only metres from a U.S. "space" stand where visiting astronaut Norman Thagard was signing autographs.

Most of the stands were taken up by military hardware from the United States, France, Britain, Australia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, Israel, Japan and Italy.

Harrier jump jets and Sea King helicopters from the British aircraft carrier Invincible also were among some 30 aircraft on display.

But the British warplanes were parked on the tarmac far away from the pavilion of the Singapore Technology Corporation, an umbrella organisation of defence-related industries.

Salvadoran army begins major anti-guerrilla sweep

SAN SALVADOR (R) — The Salvadoran army Saturday launched a major sweep in the eastern province of Usulután as part of a pacification campaign aimed to win popular support for the government, military sources said.

An army spokesman declined to give details of the operation but military sources said it would involve up to 3,500 troops backed by civilian public works teams and was an extension of a programme launched last June in the neighbouring province of San Vicente.

A Defence Ministry statement said a civilian "peace force" had been created for a public works project to build roads and establish health care centres. It called on the people of Usulután to cooperate.

The military sources said the operation, called "Well-Being for Usulután", was loosely modelled on the U.S. army's "Hearts and Minds" campaign during the war in Vietnam.

Guerrillas of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) control large areas of the rich cotton-growing coastal province and recently destroyed the key Cuscatlan Bridge over the Lempa River on the Panamerican Highway linking Usulután with neighbouring San Vicente.

Malaysian premier ends U.S. visit

WASHINGTON (A.P.) — Malaysia's prime minister wound up high level talks with officials of President Ronald Reagan's administration Friday after accusing the United States and other Western powers of exploiting the Third World.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, complaining that the Malaysian economy suffered a setback when the United States began selling surplus tin on the world market, said on Thursday he believes U.S. foreign policy has often placed the United States "on the opposition side against small Third World countries."

The 58-year-old Malaysian leader has a reputation for speaking his mind and U.S. officials said they were not overly concerned or

particularly surprised at his remarks delivered in a speech before the Foreign Policy Association here.

"He minced no words, but we're still very good friends and see eye to eye on a lot of things," said one U.S. official commenting Friday on the condition he not be identified by name.

This official said the visit in general went well and was considered "fruitful, positive and upbeat."

"If that assessment doesn't seem to square with the speech, that is no particular surprise because these are positions that the Malaysians have articulated many times," the official said.

Mr. Mahathir ended his official working visit here with separate meetings Friday with Defence

Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger and Secretary of State George P. Shultz. He had conferred on Wednesday with Mr. Reagan and was a guest at a dinner Thursday evening given by Vice President George Bush.

He was scheduled to make a private visit to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where his son is understood to be enrolled in a local school.

In his speech the prime minister urged the United States to endorse a "bill of rights for the Third World" and a "code of conduct" for industrialised nations, based on "respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference, self-determination and a fair and equitable economic system."

Uruguayan army gets new leader

MONTEVIDEO (R) — A hard-line general has been appointed to the powerful post of army commander-in-chief in the wake of Uruguay's first general strike in 10 years of military rule, the government announced Friday.

General Pedro Aranco, 59, who is regarded as the right-hand man of President Gregorio Alvarez, replaced General Boscán Honrou.

General Honrou had promoted talks on a return to democracy with the country's three legalised political parties.

But the talks became deadlocked last July, setting off a political crisis marked by increasingly open opposition to the government. Politicians say the president favours postponing elections scheduled for November.

The military authorities reacted harshly to a massive 24-hour gen-

eral strike on Tuesday, sending troops to eject workers occupying factories and closing down three magazines for reporting the stoppage.

The main Trade Union Confederation was banned. But labour leaders say they will defy the ban and union sources said some sectors were preparing new industrial action to press their demands.

Politicians played down the appointment of Gen. Aranco, noting he would reach retirement age this year. One of them said the most important appointment would be that of Gen. Aranco's successor in November.

Three colonels were promoted to the rank of brigadier, including police chief Washington Varela.

A leader of the legalised Colorado Party said all sectors of soc-

iety looked ahead to the scheduled November elections aimed at paving the way for a return to democracy next year.

He said any change in that plan, promoted by the government itself, would inevitably set off a social explosion.

The 1,000 employees in Montevideo of the Commercial Bank, one of the nation's most important financial institutions, Friday staged a four-hour strike to back wage demands and in support of the banned Trade Union Confederation.

"All of our companions in the interior (where the bank has 20 branches) wanted to join the strike but we asked them not to as the repressive situation there is worse than in Montevideo," a union delegate said.

Reagan administration plagued by many scandals

By Christopher Hanson

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration has faced more charges of financial impropriety and other misconduct by officials than any since the Nixon era, but President Reagan's popularity appears unscathed.

This month alone, the number two man in the Pentagon quit amid accusations of impropriety in private stock market deals, and the head of the United States Information Agency (USIA) acknowledged secretly taping some of his telephone calls.

In addition, former Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) official Rita Lavelle was sentenced to six months in prison and fined \$10,000 for lying to Congress about EPA activities.

The Lavelle conviction was only the latest in a series of mini-scandals and allegations, although none have approached the scale of the Watergate affair, which brought down Richard Nixon.

These and other incidents have

not added up to a major embarrassment for the Reagan administration, but political analysts say they considerably outnumber comparable episodes during the presidencies of Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter.

Despite this, a recent opinion poll showed 53 per cent of Americans approved of how Mr. Reagan was handling his presidency — the highest level in two years.

Mr. Reagan also continues to lead his Democratic rivals in straw polls as the 1984 election campaign opens, suggesting these incidents are not a big issue with voters.

But Democratic National Committee Chairman Charles Manatt told Reuters the opposition party intended to make "abuse of power, official misconduct, and conflict of interest" under Mr. Reagan a major campaign theme.

"Time after time, President Reagan has refused to deal with these abuses in a firm, timely manner," he said.

"In 1984, we are going to ask the American people if this president should not be held accountable for burying his head in the sand or winking at abuse going on around him."

The administration has provided the Democrats with plenty of ammunition since charges against officials have surfaced with regularity since Mr. Reagan took office in 1981.

Early this month, Deputy Defence Secretary Paul Thayer resigned to fight accusations by the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) of violating securities laws before joining the administration.

USIA head Charles Wick, a long-time Reagan friend, recently denied but then admitted and apologised for secretly taping telephone conversations with White House Chief of Staff James Baker, former President Jimmy Carter and others.

Mr. Wick earlier faced criticism in the so-called "kiddiegat" affair after the USIA hired the sons or

daughters of prominent officials such as Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

The Washington Post also reported last week that Peace Corps Director Loret Ruppe violated agency rules by secretly taping her deputy, Edward Curran, with whom she was at odds.

And last month, Lynn Helms, head of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), resigned after news stories reported that grand juries were investigating alleged improprieties involving businesses he had owned.

Accusations involving officials' business affairs also led to two resignations in 1981, while Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Casey last year denied any wrongdoing in his stock market investments which had prompted congressional and press criticism.

Among others who have drawn critical fire or have been forced to resign is Interior Secretary James Watt, who stepped down in the autumn after a series of con-

troversial statements, including his joking description of a government committee as "a black ... woman, two Jews and a cripple."

Meanwhile, a congressional investigation continues into the so-called "debategate" affair in which Mr. Reagan's 1980 presidential campaign received White House briefing papers intended to prepare Carter for a debate with Reagan.

In comparison with this administration, the Ford and Carter governments faced far fewer problems. Mr. Ford, who became president when Nixon resigned, was in office less than three years and apart from controversy about his pardon of Nixon over the Watergate affair, his administration was largely untroubled by charges of misconduct.

The Carter administration was also largely trouble-free, apart from questions about the propriety of business ties between Libya and Mr. Carter's brother, Billy, and a couple of resignations.

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